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Weekend, February 22-24, 2013

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films

Bratt fights off a 'Snitch'

Benjamin Bratt between The Rock and a hard place in new film {page 19}

television

A real 'Cult' following

New series on The CW raises the bar on shows about shows {page 25}

going out

Isn't she jazzy in pink?

Don't you forget about Molly Ringwald Brat Pack babe sings standards {page 31}

We have the best seat in the house for Oscar night

How Seth MacFarlane will stack up against past hosts Which Best Picture nominee shined brightest at the box office What the odds are of 'Lincoln' taking home the top honors {pages 16-17}

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PHILLY LOVES A WINNER

In the running: Officials say Philly's on 'short list' for 2024 Olympic Games

Finding hotel space is not a problem, officials say Philly was ready for a '16 nod, so plans for a '24 Games would work

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

The U.S. Olympic Committee recently sent a letter to 35 cities — including Philadelphia — in an attempt to feel out potential sites for a 2024 Summer Olympics bid. Philadelphia bid in 2006 to host the 2016 games but was eliminated by the USOC.

"I think that we are definitely, in our mind, on a short list of cities that have the capacity to take something like this on," said Larry Needle, director of the Philadelphia Sports Congress.

"Going back to our bid effort for the 2016 games, when we were one of five U.S. finalist cities, the feedback that we had received from the U.S. Olympic Committee and the consultants involved was very positive, in terms of our viability and the infrastructure that we offer as a community."

The letter states the 2024 games would require an operating budget in excess of $3 billion — not including construction costs — and the chosen host city must have first-class transit hubs and a large room rental capacity.

"We would definitely be able to house the spectators," said Greater Philadelphia Hotel Association president Ed Grose, who estimated there are about 45,000 hotel rooms in the Philadelphia area — 11,414 in Center City alone.

"When we looked at this back in 2006, we met the requirements, and since then we've added inventory, so it would be easy for us. I hope it happens."

But Andrew Stober, chief of staff for the mayor's office of transportation and utilities, cautioned that some improvements would still be required for the city to be a contender.

"Every city that hosts the Olympics winds up making significant investments ... so I'm sure Philadelphia would have to do the same," he said.

Alex Wigglesworth
awigglesworth@metro.us

Fan frenzy

Local fans were excited by the prospect. "I think it would be a very beneficial thing for the city," said Zackary Tyman, who with his brother Cole launched a grassroots campaign three years ago to garner support for Philadelphia as the host of the 2024 Olympic Games.

"I was living in London last year and I was there for the 2012 Olympics. On a personal level, it was one of coolest things I've ever experienced. On a logistics level, an economic level and a political level, it did a lot to benefit the city." Cole

Tyman said he hopes to raise awareness among spectators.

"This would be another way to show that not just the leaders of the city want it, but people living in the city want it, too."

Quoted

"[The Olympics] would be another way to show that not just the leaders of the city want it, but people living in the city want it, too."

TYMAN

The breakdown

According to the United States Olympic Committee letter, the host city would need:

- 45,000 hotel rooms
- An Olympic Village that sleeps 16,000 and has a 5,000-person dining hall
- Operations space for more than 15,000 media and broadcasters
- An airport that can handle thousands of international travelers
- Public transportation service to venues
- Roadway closures to allow Olympics-related transportation
- A workforce of up to 200,000 people

In the news

332

How many birthdays Pennsylvania has had. Starting March 10, the original Penn Charter that established our great state in 1681 will be on display at The State Museum of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg. It will house the charter for free for one week only, coinciding with Pennsylvania's birthday. METRO/CP

Local tweet

"Philadelphia Olympics 2024 = 125,000+ cheese steak references. Unawesome"

@DARIZZLEDIZZLE IS NOT EXCITED AT THE PROSPECT OF PHILADELPHIA POSSIBLY HOSTING THE 2024 SUMMER OLYMPICS

Correction

In Wednesday's edition, we incorrectly listed the restaurant where Joe Cicala is a chef. He is the chef at Le Virtù. Metro regrets the error.

News in brief

Marathon dates changed due to green building conference

On its Facebook page Tuesday, Philadelphia Marathon officials announced they changed the dates of all three races.

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

Marathoners may need to amend their plans this year.

The marathon and half-marathon will change from Nov. 24 to Nov. 17, and the Rothman 8k run will move from Nov. 23 to Nov. 16.

The original dates overlapped with the U.S. Green Building Council's 2013 conference, which is planned from Nov. 15 to Nov. 23 at the Convention Center.

The Philadelphia Marathon has traditionally been held the weekend before Thanksgiving.

The change could affect hotel, plane and restaurant reservations, as the 2013 dates had already been announced.

Registration for the races opens April 1.

METRO/TR

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- Study-related care and study treatment at no cost
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News in brief

City Council wants to protect online privacy

CITY HALL. City Councilman Bill Greenlee on Thursday introduced a bill that would ban employers from demanding social media account information from current or prospective employees.

The bill also would prohibit employers from disciplining or refusing to hire employees if they decline to share password information for social media sites. Greenlee said a number of states, including California, New Jersey and Delaware, have already enacted similar legislation.

Greenlee called it "blatantly unfair" in "this competitive hiring environment."

"It is blatantly unfair for employers to pressure workers ... into forking over their personal space."
GREENLEE

METRO/AW

News in brief

Woman alleged to have stolen $300K from ex-employer

A Warminster woman surrendered to police Thursday for allegedly stealing more than $355,000 when she was the manager of a veterinarian's office.

Trisha McLaughlin, 36, was fired from the Newtown Veterinary Hospital in December 2011 for allegedly stealing $3,000. As authorities took a closer look, the amount grew into the six figures.

Police said she wrote checks to herself to pay off a car and a gym membership. **METRO/TR**

Hungry enough to eat a horse? He's counting on it

Philly restaurateur wants to serve horsemeat and doesn't care who objects ◗ Greenlee won't go to a restaurant that served it

Peter McAndrews wants to serve horsemeat in his restaurant. You got a problem with that?

"If you try it and don't like it, hey, that's OK, but don't sell it down the river until you've tried it," said McAndews, who owns several restaurants in town, including Monsu.

If there were protesters who aren't happy with this stance on serving horsemeat, he said he would welcome them.

"Let them come and protest. I love it, I'll hose 'em all down with a fire hose," he said.

"Hey, if I want to be fat, let me be fat. ... It's government micromanaging the people. If I want to sit at my house and drink a case of beer, that's my problem."

PHILIPPE HUGUEN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Some people call it Rainbow Dash. Others, dinner.

Quoted

"People see horses as a beautiful creature not to be consumed," he said. "They look at cows in a different view. I don't know why, you know what I mean? It's just more or less the PR that the horse gets as opposed to the cow."
MCANDREWS

Councilman William Greenlee's said he wouldn't go to a restaurant that served horsemeat after City Council approved his bill that calls for licensing to own horses in the city.

"You know, consumer pressure and fears put on by our government dictates what we're allowed to eat," he said.

It is still illegal to serve horsemeat, but McAndrews believes that might change. Right now it's available in Europe and Canada.

"In Sicily, it's commonly served like a cheesesteak would be over here," he said.

Tommy Rowan
tommy.rowan@metro.us

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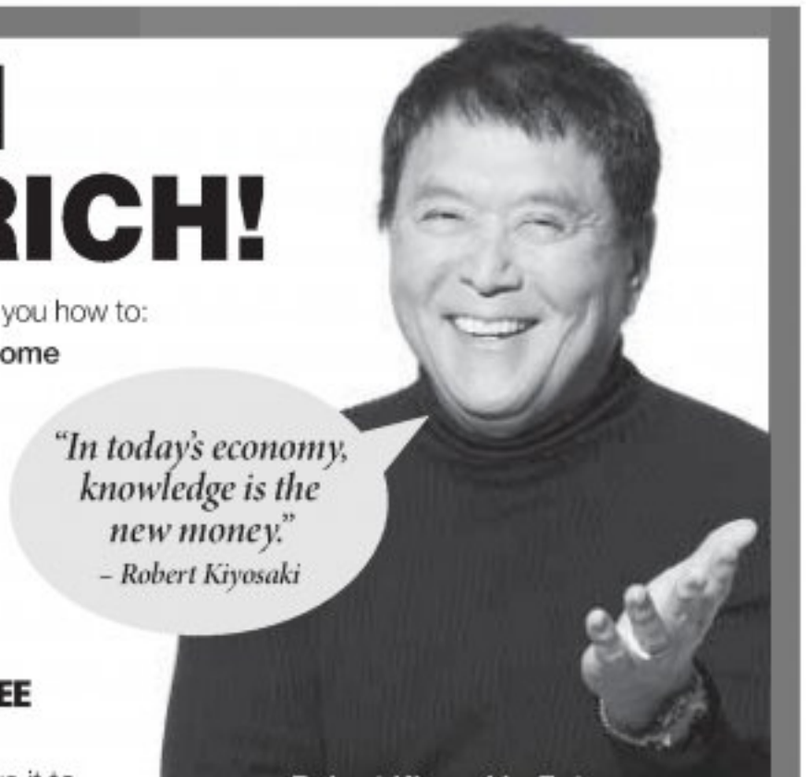

Robert Kiyosaki - Entrepreneur, Investor, Teacher, and Author of the International Bestseller *Rich Dad Poor Dad* (Over 25 million copies sold)

Robert Kiyosaki will not attend this event

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News in brief

NJ ambulance driver responds to call drunk

WARREN COUNTY. A Northwest New Jersey volunteer ambulance driver was arrested Wednesday night after he responded to an emergency call drunk, police said.

James Rigney Jr., 39, a rescue squad member in Hackettstown, N.J., had a blood alcohol content of .08, officials said.

An officer noticed Rigney Jr. driving the wrong way.

Alcohol was detected on his breath.

After Rigney refused a field sobriety test, he was charged with driving while intoxicated and careless driving. **METRO/TR**

.08
Rigney Jr.'s blood alcohol level

'The Chew'. Goes local

▶ Jason Roberts (left), a correspondent on "The Chew," chows down with Federal Donuts chef Michael Solomonov on Thursday afternoon.

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

We built this city on doughnut holes

CENTER CITY. A crew from ABC's daytime cooking show "The Chew" shot an episode on Thursday afternoon at Federal Donuts' Center City location. Federal Donuts chef Michael Solomonov, who also heads up Old City's Zahav and recently opened Main Line kosher eatery Citron and Rose, explained the particulars of his famous fried chicken and doughnuts to "The Chew" correspondent chef Jason Roberts. A crowd of lunchtime onlookers quickly gathered to watch the show. The taping ran from 11:30 to 12:45 p.m. The episode's airdate has not yet been determined. **METRO/AW**

Police: Furby weapon of choice in fight

ALLEGHENY COUNTY. A Moon Township woman was arrested early Wednesday morning for allegedly assaulting her boyfriend of eight months with a Furby toy and a Sony PlayStation remote.

Officers responded at 1 a.m. and met outside the home with William Ley.

Ley told police he was sitting on the couch when live-in girlfriend Ashley Trimmer began yelling.

"William Ley states that Ashley picked up a Furby toy and threw it at him, striking the right side of his face," the complaint reads.

"William Ley states that Ashley Trimmer then picked up a Sony PlayStation handheld remote control and threw it at him, striking the left side of his face, causing an injury."

The recording officer noted that Ley had a red mark and swollen, bleeding bump on the left side of his face.

Trimmer was taken into custody and is charged with one misdemeanor count of simple assault. She is currently in Allegheny County jail in lieu of $2,000 bail, according to court documents.

Trimmer is next due in court for a preliminary hearing on Feb. 26.

Public enemy No. 1

Alex Wigglesworth
awigglesworth@metro.us

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Omega	Up To	$2,500
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My service was exceptional! — *C. Sweeney*

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SUN: 11AM-6PM

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MON-SAT: 10AM-9PM
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MONUMENT ROOM

News in brief

GETTY IMAGES

Obama called top GOP to discuss looming cuts

WASHINGTON. President Barack Obama on Thursday called Republican congressional leaders, House of Representatives Speaker John Boehner and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell to discuss looming spending cuts, the White House said.

White House spokesman Jay Carney said the conversations were "good" but declined to provide any details.

An estimated $85 billion in across-the-board "sequestra-tion" cuts are due to go into effect March 1 unless Congress acts. **REUTERS**

Car-to-car shooting causes three deaths on Las Vegas Strip

LAS VEGAS. Three people were killed and at least four others were hurt in a car-to-car shooting and crash early Thursday.

A person in a black Range Rover Sport opened fire on a Maserati at about 4:20 a.m. as the cars traveled north in front of the Strip's Bellagio and Bally's casinos, saida police spokesman.

The Range Rover fled the scene.

The driver of the Maserati lost control of the car and crashed into a taxi, which burst into flames. The Maserati, which had a passenger, struck another four cars, he said.

The drivers of the Maserati and the taxi were killed, as was a passenger in the taxi. **REUTERS**

Opinion

TOM FOREMAN

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT FOR CNN

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CNN = POLITICS

THE SUREST THING

I don't believe in sure things. No matter how well you calculate the odds, sometimes an ace shows up when you don't want it, a horse stumbles in the home stretch, or your vice president starts advising people to buy shotguns just as you're pushing for gun control. But when it comes to this sequester business, the Democrats are pretty much sitting on a sure thing right now.

As these automatic cuts to federal spending bear down, virtually every meaningful measure of public opinion leans in favor of the Dems. According to a Pew Research Center/USA Today survey, a plurality of Americans think the cuts should at least be delayed. Almost half say they'll put the blame on Republicans if the cuts come through, compared to less than a third who say they'll hold President Barack Obama responsible. Eleven percent would blame both. The Democrats are pushing for more taxes on the rich, and the public still likes that idea, too.

So game it out. If the Republicans strike a deal to avoid the cuts, the White House is well positioned to take credit, saying all the president's harsh talk forced the GOP to play ball. If the Republicans refuse a deal, the White House can rush to the podium just as quickly to excoriate the opposition and urge voters to punish that party in the midterm elections next year.

Never mind that even though the president treats the sequester like an orphan child, he helped birth it two years ago. Never mind that even as the White House moans about meat-cleaver cuts, the administration is dodging every question about where they would apply the scalpel in a more thoughtful way. Never mind that the Democrats still control two-thirds of the government and evidence suggests they are every bit as much to blame for what is happening.

Quoted

The president knows most of the voters are with him.

The president knows most of the voters are with him, and he and his party will probably come out political winners regardless of how the dice tumble.

*– CNN's **Tom Foreman** is a regular on "AC360°" /www.ac360.com and "The Situation Room."*

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

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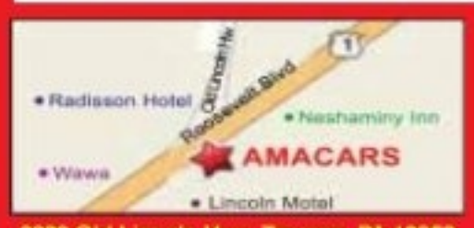

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In the news

GETTY IMAGES

▶ A rough two days

Wall Street drops again

NEW YORK. U.S. stocks fell on Thursday and were on track for their biggest two-day decline since November, as weak data suggested expectations for economic growth were overly optimistic.

The two-day decline marked the U.S. stock market's first sustained pullback this year. The Standard & Poor's 500 is up 5.2 percent so far this year. The benchmark index has climbed for seven straight weeks, putting it near five-year highs.

In the latest economic data, initial claims for unemployment benefits rose more than expected last week while the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia said its index of business conditions in the U.S. mid-Atlantic region fell in February to minus 12.5, the lowest in eight months. **REUTERS**

Sony seeks a leg up over Microsoft with new PlayStation

NEW YORK. Sony said it will launch its next-generation PlayStation this year, hoping its first video-game console in seven years will give it a much-needed head start over the next version of Microsoft's Xbox and help revive its stumbling electronics business.

The console will have a revamped interface, let users stream and play games hosted on servers, and allow users to play while downloading as well as share videos. Its new controller called DualShock 4, will have a touchpad and a camera that can sense the depth of the environment in front of it. **REUTERS**

Bomb kills more than 50 people in Damascus

A car bomb killed more than 50 people and wounded 200 in central Damascus on Thursday when it blew up on a busy highway close to ruling Baath Party offices and the Russian Embassy, state media and activists said.

Syrian television showed charred and bloodied bodies strewn across the street after the blast, which it described as a suicide bombing by "terrorists" battling President Bashar al-Assad. It said 53 people were killed.

Central Damascus has been relatively insulated from almost two years of unrest and civil war in which about 70,000 people have been killed across the country, but the bloodshed has shattered suburbs around the capital.

Rebels who control districts to the south and east of Damascus have attacked Assad's power base for nearly a month and struck with devastating bombs over the last year.

The al Qaeda-linked rebel group Jabhat al-Nusra, which claimed responsibility for several of those bombs, says it carried out 17 attacks around Damascus in the first half of February, including seven bombings. **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES

▶ A general view shows burnt cars at the scene of a powerful car-bomb explosion near the headquarters of Syria's ruling Baath party in the center of Damascus on Feb. 21.

200
People were wounded in the car bomb

The victims

Activists said most of the victims of the attack in the city's Mazraa district were civilians, including children, possibly from a school behind the Baath building.

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EDUCATION TOWARDS EMPLOYMENT

SPECIAL ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

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Man behind Amish Fireplace gives public $99 deal

Consumers rush to get in on rock bottom deal for the World Famous miracle heater as Amish craftsmen struggle to keep up, household limit of 2 imposed

NATIONWIDE – It's a deal too good to pass up.

That's because the man behind the Amish Fireplace and founder of Heat Surge is giving away brand new World Famous Miracle Heaters for just $99 to the general public beginning at 8:30am this morning.

And with many months of freezing cold weather yet to come and high heat bills right around the corner, the phone lines are ringing off the hook.

When I got wind that all this was ending in just 2 days, I left my office at Heat Surge and headed straight to Amish country to set up an interview with long time Amish craftsman Jonas Miller so I could be the first to get the story out to newspaper readers everywhere.

Here's my interview with the soft spoken, hard working man who reminds me of good old honest Abe and I got right to the bottom line.

QUESTION: I'm confirming that the World Famous Miracle Heater is now just $99, right?

ANSWER: Yes ma'am, it's just $99.

QUESTION: That's unbelievable. Do you know how much people have paid for the Miracle Heater and handmade Amish fireplace mantle in the past?

ANSWER: Lots and lots of people have paid $249.00 just for the Miracle Heater and another $298.00 for the Amish mantle. That's a total of $547.00 and they're glad to pay it because they know it's handmade Amish quality that lasts forever and Heat Surge pays me to make sure everyone knows it.

QUESTION: Then why are the Miracle Heaters being given away for just $99 now?

ANSWER: There's a bunch of good people out there that have always wanted to slash their heat bills and stay warm with one of our fireplaces, but just couldn't afford one. Folks living on fixed incomes, those living pay check to pay check and retired folks who would have so much more money if they didn't have to budget for such high heat bills every month. That's why the man behind the Amish fireplace said to give the heaters away for just $99 for the next 2 days. Plus give the handmade Amish fireplace mantles away for half price so everyone can get them.

QUESTION: Now I know why so many people are calling to get the Miracle Heater. Are the craftsmen struggling to keep up?

ANSWER: Yes ma'am. Now that winter is really starting to set in folks want to save money. Everyone hates paying high heat bills that start showing up in January and don't stop until after May. I looked in one of the barns this morning and I'll tell ya what, they're flying out the door like apple butter pies. The boys are really struggling to keep up. That's why I need you to tell folks I'm really sorry, but we just can't let them have any more than two as part of this advertising announcement.

QUESTION: How much money are people saving with these Miracle Heaters?

ANSWER: Thousands of letters pour in from folks all across the country thanking us at Heat Surge for all the money they're saving on their heat bills with this Amish fireplace. It works because the Miracle Heater creates perfect zone heating giving you 74° of bone-soothing room heat even when the home thermostat is turned down to 59°. So everyone will save money and no one will ever be cold again.

QUESTION: I read an article that says these Miracle Heaters are a top rated safety pick. Have you seen it too?

ANSWER: Oh yes. Someone showed me that article and we're very proud of it. In fact, when a fire chief tells people with children and pets to get it, you know it's safe. It has the World Famous safe to the touch Fireless Flame® technology that gives you the peaceful flicker of a real fire but without any flames, fumes, smells, ashes or mess.

This is about the time we had to wrap things up, but I could've talked to this soft spoken Amish man for hours.

Unfortunately, he was late getting back to the barn. But there are two things I want readers to know. This really is a great deal and once the two day deadline ends, the price for the World Famous Miracle Heater and Amish built fireplace mantle will go clear back up to $547.00 plus shipping.

That's why it's so important for readers to call the Toll Free Hotlines today to get the Miracle Heaters for just $99 before the deadline ends.

It just doesn't make sense for anyone to suffer through the cold when you can get the brand new Miracle Heater for just $99 and never have to pay high heat bills again. So if phone lines are busy keep trying, they promise to answer all calls. ■

– by Kristin Kishman, Consumer Analyst for Heat Surge LLC.

■ **CONSUMERS JUMP ON DEAL:** "We're gonna keep our word and give the Miracle Heaters away for just $99, but nearly everyone wants a handmade Amish mantle built for them, so please tell folks not to take any more than two because the boys are struggling to keep up now that they're just one hundred forty-nine dollars more," said long-time Amish craftsman, Jonas Miller. Barns that were stacked from floor to ceiling are now going empty because everyone hates paying high heat bills. That's why smart consumers are rushing to beat the 2 day deadline for this rock bottom deal that's putting a real strain on the Amish craftsmen.

Claim Code: NP580

Who gets the $99 deal

Find your zone on this U.S. Weather Map

Everyone who locates the Weather Zone they live in must call the National Toll Free Hotlines for their zone beginning at precisely 8:30am this morning. Those who get through are being given the World Famous Miracle Heater for just $99 and shipping. No calls will be accepted for this deal after the deadline ends 2 days from today's publication date.

Anyone who misses the deadline will not get the $99 deal for the Miracle Heater. They will be required to pay the regular price of $547.00 plus shipping for the Miracle Heater that comes mounted in the handmade Amish fireplace mantle.

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EVERYONE LIVING IN THE Frigid Zone: 1	EVERYONE LIVING IN THE Cold Zone: 2	EVERYONE LIVING IN THE Frost Zone: 3
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1-800-601-3407	1-800-601-3409	1-800-601-3433

■ **GET THEM WHILE YOU CAN:** "We're letting everyone get the Miracle Heater (shown here) for just $99, but nearly everyone wants to have a handmade Amish mantle built for their Miracle Heater, so we can barely keep up with all the orders," said Craftsman, Jonas Miller.

Barns going empty, consumers rush to lock in $99 deal

With just 2 days left to get in on the $99 deal and Amish barns going empty, people everywhere are rushing to get the Miracle Heaters before they're all sold out.

Demand for the Miracle Heaters has skyrocketed ever since news about the $99 deal started spreading. In fact, overflow hotlines had to be set up just to take all the calls and because the Amish craftsmen are struggling to keep up, a household limit of 2 had to be imposed.

According to the avalanche of consumer reviews for the Miracle Heaters, people absolutely swear by them, repeatedly saying, "It saves money," "looks beautiful," and "heats from floor to ceiling to keep everyone warm and cozy."

People from all across the country are calling to get in on this deal before the deadline ends 2 days from today's publication date. So if lines are busy be sure to call one of the overflow hotlines at **1-888-414-2503** or **1-888-414-2572** to get the Miracle Heater for just $99.

And since all the handmade mantles that the Amish are building today are half price, nearly everyone is asking to have their Miracle Heater custom built in the Amish mantle for just one hundred forty-nine dollars more because everyone who does is getting a custom finish upgrade in Light Oak, Dark Oak, Black, or Cherry for free.

Just make sure you call before the deadline ends because anyone who misses the deadline can't get in on this deal and will have to pay the regular price of $547.00 plus shipping for the Miracle Heater that comes mounted in the handmade Amish fireplace mantle. ■

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2009 Dodge Avenger
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2008 Hyundai Sonata
EX Terms

2005 Cadillac STS
Reliable Luxury

2005 GMC Envoy Denali
4 Wheel Drive Fun

A tale of two trials: Lead in 'Blade Runner' case facing attempted murder charges

ALEXANDER JOE/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ South African Olympic sprinter Oscar Pistorius appears in court.

South African police investigating Oscar Pistorius for murder pulled their lead detective off the "Blade Runner" athlete's case on Thursday after it emerged that he himself faces attempted murder charges for shooting at a minibus.

Battling embarrassment in the glare of a global media spotlight, they named the nation's most senior detective to take over, as preliminary hearings to decide whether the Olympic and Paralympic star can go free on bail were adjourned until Friday.

Hilton Botha, the initial lead investigator, had already faced a torrid time over his evidence from defense counsel this week, and police commissioner Riah Phiyega said he might become distracted by the charges relating to the bus shooting in 2011.

"From this point forward, I will take over," Lt. Gen. Vinesh Moonoo told Reuters. A 32-year veteran of the force, he added: "It will not affect the court proceedings."

Charges against Warrant Officer Botha over the taxi minibus shooting had been dropped, but the National Prosecuting Authority told Reuters they were reinstated on Feb. 4 — 10 days before Pistorius shot girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp in his Pretoria home.

"The decision to reinstate was taken on Feb. 4, way before the issue of Pistorius came to light or the murder of Reeva was committed," NPA spokesman Medupe Simasiku told Reuters. "It's completely unrelated to this trial."

It is not clear whether the dismissal of Botha would affect the athlete's chances of securing release from custody pending his trial. After a fourth day of bail hearings, the judge said the court would sit again on the matter on Friday.

At the time of the shooting in 2011, Botha was chasing a man accused of murdering a woman and disposing of her dismembered body down a drain, local media said.

Pistorius, who was born without bones in his lower legs and runs on carbon-fiber racing blades, faces life in prison if convicted of the premeditated murder of Steenkamp in the early hours of Valentine's Day.

He denies murder and his lawyers say he opened fire with a pistol at what he thought was a burglar.

REUTERS

▶ Botha

Quoted

"The poor quality of evidence presented by the chief investigating officer exposed disastrous shortcomings in the state's case."

EAD DEFENSE COUNSEL BARRY ROUX

Antsy sponsors

Sportswear giant Nike froze its endorsement contract with Pistorius on Thursday, saying the athlete should be "afforded due process."

Other companies with sponsorship deals, including British telecom firm BT, U.S. sunglasses maker Oakley and French designer Thierry Mugler, have declined to comment on their contracts while the bail hearing is continuing.

German powerhouse economy outshines weak French by biggest chasm in four years

The schism dividing the eurozone's strong and weak economies deepened to include its core pairing in February as French firms suffered their worst month in four years in stark contrast to prospering Germany.

The gap between the two biggest economies in the eurozone is now at its widest since purchasing manager surveys (PMIs) started in 1998, the latest sounding showed.

It dealt a blow to hopes the eurozone might emerge from recession soon, showing the downturn across the region's businesses worsened unexpectedly this month.

REUTERS

Hidden woes

Survey compiler Markit said the French data were more befitting of a struggling peripheral euro zone economy such as Spain or Italy, rather than a key growth engine.

"There are issues in the French economy which are being unmasked by the depth and severity of this crisis," said Peter Dixon, global equities economist at Commerzbank. He said France has major structural problems, and also said business activity may have been crimped by confusion over the government's economic policies.

"That may well have been frightening the horses when it comes to businesses."

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WEEKEND

2

We break down the Academy Awards, from hosts past and present to box office home and abroad to award predictions to a chat with Bryan Cranston of 'Argo'

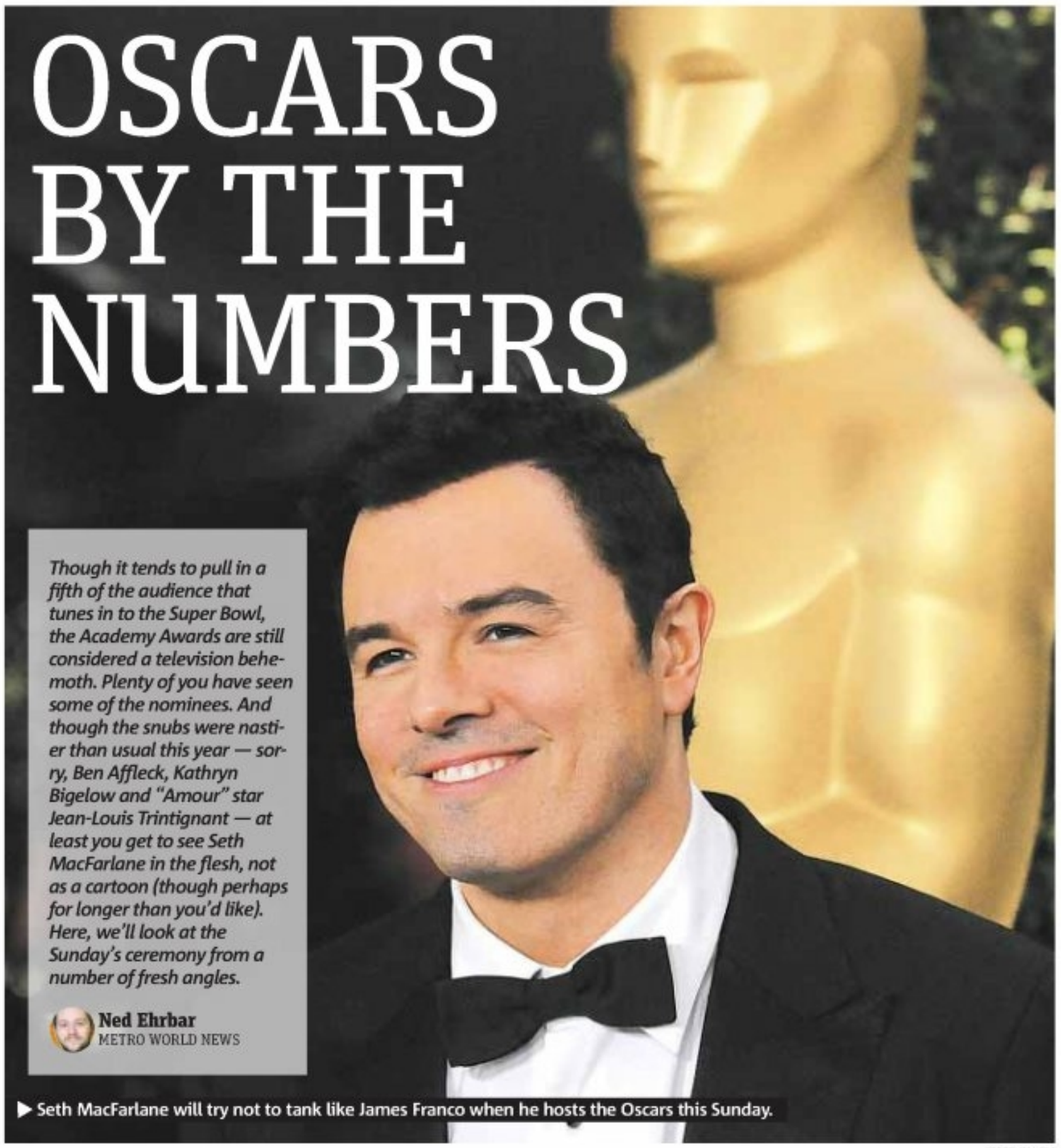
Countdown

Blockbuster nominees

We take a look at how the highest-grossing international films of 2012 stack up when it comes to Oscar nominations:

1. **"The Avengers"** ($1.5 billion) — 1 nomination
2. **"Skyfall"** ($1.1 billion) — 5 nominations
3. **"The Dark Knight Rises"** ($1.08 billion) 0 nominations
4. **"The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey"** ($959.8 million) — 3 nominations
5. **"Ice Age: Continental Drift"** ($875.3 million) — 0 nominations

OSCARS BY THE NUMBERS



Though it tends to pull in a fifth of the audience that tunes in to the Super Bowl, the Academy Awards are still considered a television behemoth. Plenty of you have seen some of the nominees. And though the snubs were nastier than usual this year — sorry, Ben Affleck, Kathryn Bigelow and "Amour" star Jean-Louis Trintignant — at least you get to see Seth MacFarlane in the flesh, not as a cartoon (though perhaps for longer than you'd like). Here, we'll look at the Sunday's ceremony from a number of fresh angles.

Ned Ehrbar
METRO WORLD NEWS

▶ Seth MacFarlane will try not to tank like James Franco when he hosts the Oscars this Sunday.

GETTY IMAGES

Best Picture by box office

It's no secret in Hollywood that awards-season accolades and box office success don't always go hand in hand — though a high-profile nomination or win will generally boost a film's gross. So how do the nine Best Picture nominees rank in terms of their global ticket sales?

1. **"Life of Pi"** $576 million
2. **"Les Misérables"** $378.9 million
3. **"Django Unchained"** $365.9 million
4. **"Lincoln"** $235 million
5. **"Argo"** $204 million
6. **"Silver Linings Playbook"** $140 million
7. **"Zero Dark Thirty"** $101.5 million
8. **"Amour"** $17 million
9. **"Beasts of the Southern Wild"** $12 million

Rating the hosts

The choice of "Family Guy" creator Seth MacFarlane may seem like yet another attempt by the older-skewing Oscars to appeal to the kids. The thing is, he actually has a surprising tendency toward Old Hollywood style. At parties thrown at his house, MacFarlane is even known to sing standards backed by a big band. While the jury's still out on MacFarlane's performance, we thought we'd see what he has to measure up to from the past few years' shows:

Billy Crystal

Year: 2012
Grade: ❶❷③④⑤
After the Franco/Hathaway disaster, the Academy went back to standby Crystal, hosting his ninth Oscars. But the funnyman's schtick maybe went too old-fashioned, as his bits were generally panned as hokey and out-of-touch. Case in point: While many in that precious younger demographic might not necessarily know Crystal was dressing up as Sammy Davis Jr. in one bit, they do know what blackface looks like.

James Franco and Anne Hathaway

Year: 2011
Grade: ❶②③④⑤
As we remarked during this train wreck, apparently there is something James Franco can't do. This brazen attempt at pulling in younger viewers turned out to be a disaster, with current nominee Hathaway seemingly abandoned by Franco, who appeared to have given up on the endeavor before it even began.

Alec Baldwin and Steve Martin

Year: 2010
Grade: ❶❷③④⑤
The likeable comic actors relied heavily on their own charm, but it wasn't enough to save the show. With stale jokes and awkward delivery, their performance felt too much like an ad for their equally disappointing 2009 film "It's Complicated."

Hugh Jackman

Year: 2009
Grade: ❶❷③④⑤
The Australian charmer — who happens to be a Best Actor nominee this year for "Les Misérables" — turned in the hosting performance to beat the year "Slumdog Millionaire" won. His opening song-and-dance number was the standout, but Broadway veteran Jackman proved he's an all-around talent.

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oscar preview

▶ Daniel Day-Lewis will almost certainly score his third Oscar for "Lincoln."

The odds are ...

We look at what the Oscar prognosticators have had to say about who will (or may) win:

With odds of 4 to 1, Steven Spielberg's "Lincoln" is still the favorite to win the Best Picture prize at the Academy Awards on Sunday, according to Gold Derby, which tracks the chances for Oscar nominees. That's despite the surge of support — and wins at other award shows — for Ben Affleck's "Argo." The proliferation started when Affleck was left out of the Best Director race, which Spielberg is also likely to take, with 12-to-5 odds.

In the acting categories, it's no surprise to anyone that "Lincoln" star Daniel Day-Lewis is most likely on his way to becoming the first three-time Best Actor winner in Oscar history, with a 39-percent chance of victory. The only nominee with better odds of scoring a trophy is Anne Hathaway, nominated for Best Supporting Actress for "Les Misérables." The Best Actress race is much more interesting, with "Silver Linings Playbook" star Jennifer Lawrence (33 percent) edging out Jessica Chastain of "Zero Dark Thirty" (30 percent).

12:1

"Amour" star Emmanuelle Riva,

thought to be a potential dark horse, currently has 12-to-1 odds of winning.

NED EHRBAR

▶ Cranston, right, says his wife wants to go to the Oscars more than he does.

Bryan Cranston on the joys of awards season

If you see "Breaking Bad" and "Argo" star Bryan Cranston at Sunday's Academy Awards, know that he's not there of his own volition. "First of all, I wouldn't go. If I'm not nominated, why am I there?" he tells Metro. "They want me to go the Oscars. I'm not nominated, but 'Argo' is, and it's like, 'Go, go, go!' My wife's saying, 'You've got to go! We've got to go!' And it's like, 'Really? I don't know. Another tuxedo?' From the outside in, you're like, 'Wow! Look at that!' But when you're there, I'm telling you ... I've got to be careful how I phrase this because I don't want to sound like I'm not grateful. I'm grateful for the opportunities."

It's not sitting through the shows themselves that bugs Cranston so much as working the red carpets. "I hate red-carpet interviews because you get as a deep into a conversation as you would in a loud bar," he says. "It's awful, it's awful. The publicists, they tell me it's important and you should do it, but any time I go, I ask, 'Can I avoid the red carpet?'" METRO/NE

Benjamin Bratt: Calm, in control

The 'Snitch' actor discusses playing a drug cartel kingpin and going up against The Rock

Benjamin Bratt had to master one particular new skill to play Mexican cartel kingpin El Topo in "Snitch" — looking calm and in control when confronted by an anxious and intimidating Dwayne Johnson. "The thing I was most interested in capturing was the comfort level that comes with the self-recognition that you're the very tip-top of the food chain. I don't know what that's like in real life," Bratt says. "The almost emotional, calm remove that comes with being that confident — so confident as to recognize that there is no one that can tip you over. So even when a 6-foot-5, 240-pound monster of a man comes into the room, to you it's just like taking a breath."

With lots of talk of mandatory minimum sentences and DEA investigations, "Snitch" touches on a lot of the details of the drug war currently being waged in the U.S. and Mexico. But Bratt doesn't want audiences to expect any answers to the problem. "The fact of the matter is, frighteningly, it's here. It's right here in our own backyard. And the film doesn't really try to solve that issue at all. It merely uses the reality to up the emotional stakes," Bratt says. "Obviously we're operating in a fictionalized world, but I think what gives the film gravitas and what actually elevates it beyond a typical genre action picture is that it feels real."

Something else the filmmakers wanted to feel real is the tension between Bratt's drug lord and Johnson's character, a father trying to get his 18-year-old son out of prison. To get that palpable discomfort, some socializing and camaraderie had to be sacrificed. "We only said hello on the set the day before our scene, over a couple of minutes," Bratt says. "It wasn't a conscious decision on my part, and I can't guess as to whether it was on his, but I think in hindsight I understand that that's what needed to happen. We weren't meant to be buddy-buddy, not in this situation."

But that confrontation with Johnson doesn't come until late in the film, leaving Bratt's El Topo as an off-screen menace for most of the running time. He doesn't necessarily have a problem with that, even if his people might. "The character's talked about a lot, so much so that you feel like he's more in the movie than he actually is on the page," he says. "I think I'm in all of two scenes or something like that, a total of four or five minutes or whatever it is. According to my agent, 'You're only in the movie for six minutes!' I don't count, to be honest. It has nothing to do with the size of the part. As long as it's something I can do my thing in, I can score in."

WARNER BROS. PICTURES

▶ Benjamin Bratt plays El Topo in "Snitch," in theaters today.

Typecasting

"Snitch" isn't the first time Bratt has popped up as a Mexican drug lord: He menaced Catherine Zeta-Jones as Juan Obregon in Steven Soderbergh's "Traffic" 13 years ago. And that's long enough for Bratt to not worry about typecasting.

"I felt like there were enough years, certainly, between "Traffic" and this part to be able to take it on. But they're very similar people," he admits. "To do it again, it would just have to be a bigger part. They'd have to get more pages, you know?"

Ned Ehrbar
METRO WORLD NEWS

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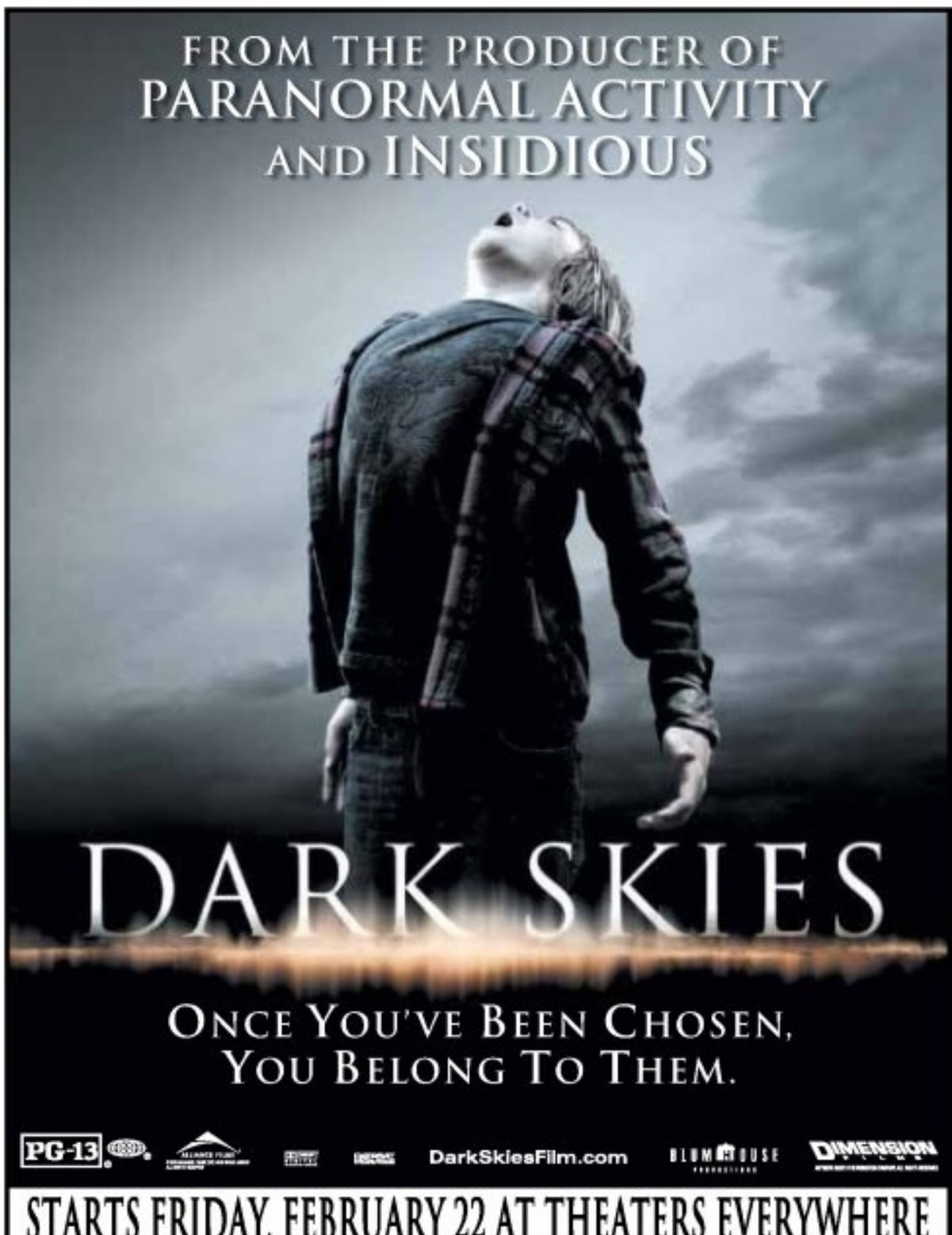

Review

'56 Up'

Director: Michael Apted
Rating: NR
Grade: ❶❷❸❹⑤

It's one of the best ideas for a movie, if not the best: In the "Up" documentaries, the same 14-or-so Brits (and one Aussie) are visited every seven years, starting at age 7. Watched one by one — beginning with 1964's episode "Seven Up!" onto the new "56 Up" — the films can be like reconnecting with old friends. Downed in one quick block, it's cosmic: You watch as kids become shy teens, angry 20-somethings, frustrated 30-somethings, angry 40-somethings and now mellow 50-somethings.

A fairly decent chunk of the mysteries of life can be found in these eight films, all without the filmmakers really trying. A documentarian who moonlights as a big-time Hollywood director ("The World is Not Enough," last year's "Chasing Mavericks"), Michael Apted has been helming the series since the second film. (He was a researcher on the first.) In each installment, he asks the same basic questions: what's new, how's life, how's the family (provided they exist) and so on.

FIRST RUN FEATURES

▶ Peter from "56 Up," now in his 50s, is back in the documentary series for the first time since "28 Up"

"49 Up" was the film where even the more cooperative cast members — and not everyone always returns, though the gang's nearly all here in "56" — rebelled against Apted and the reality TV-level fame foisted upon them. But 56 is a deep age, and, odd health problems aside, most of the cast are about the same as seven years prior — or failing that, at least stable. Even painfully smart Neil, who wound up homeless around "28 Up," has eked out some form of a life, if barely.

The lack of fireworks means one's position on the "Up" series is confirmed or challenged, or both. Are Apted's questions lame? Should he have long ago driven it in more specific directions? Or is the staid formula — basic catch-up questions, then onto the next person — perfect, since it allows more themes and ideas to arise organically out of the narratives? Even those of us who believe the latter have to admit it could stand some tinkering — perhaps delving into, say, the class system with which the films originally began. Or perhaps our era of reality TV and viral oversharing has made the "Up" films seem too short and cursory. Not everyone in "56 Up" is interesting and yet Apted's style of shuffling from one person to the next, sometimes right as they're getting interesting, can leave one hungry for more.

MATT PRIGGE

Repertory Spotlight

Exhumed Films presents ZOMBIES!
Purveyors of genre fare actually screened on film, Exhumed offers a twofer of obscure flesh eaters. 1987's "The Video Dead" — once only available as a DTV title, but shown off a magically discovered 35mm print — offers the undead emerging into real life from a Romero-esque TV movie. 1988's "Dead Heat" pits Treat Williams and Joe Piscopo against zombies — although perhaps it's more amusing that the talented Treat Williams has been cast aside Joe Piscopo. It's also almost assuredly the only film to feature both Vincent Price and Martha Quinn, hopefully in the same room. **Friday, Feb. 22, 8pm. $12-$15. International House, 3701 Chestnut St.**

METRO/MP

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Talking 'Beautiful Creatures' with Emmy Rossum

Actress and singer Emmy Rossum is tired of playing the good girl, which is why she jumped at the chance to take on the role of deadly siren Ridley in the screen adaptation of the best-selling young adult novel "Beautiful Creatures." Being bad, she insists, is more fun.

Alden Ehrenreich and Alice Englert, the film's leads, have said they initially passed on the film and had to be convinced to do it. How about you?

No, I was totally, selfishly wanting to be in the movie because this is such a fun character. I read [the script] and then I read the first book and auditioned, got the part and was overjoyed. I love the character: She's so fun and a different kind of villain than we're used to seeing.

Congratulations on the Season 4 renewal for "Shameless."

Thank you. I'm excited to see where the character could go. The rest of this season has me working in different jobs until I seem to kind of find a steadier job as a telemarketer for a company called Universal Cup that makes disposable beverage cups. And I have a very cute, interesting boss, which can prove to be a problem.

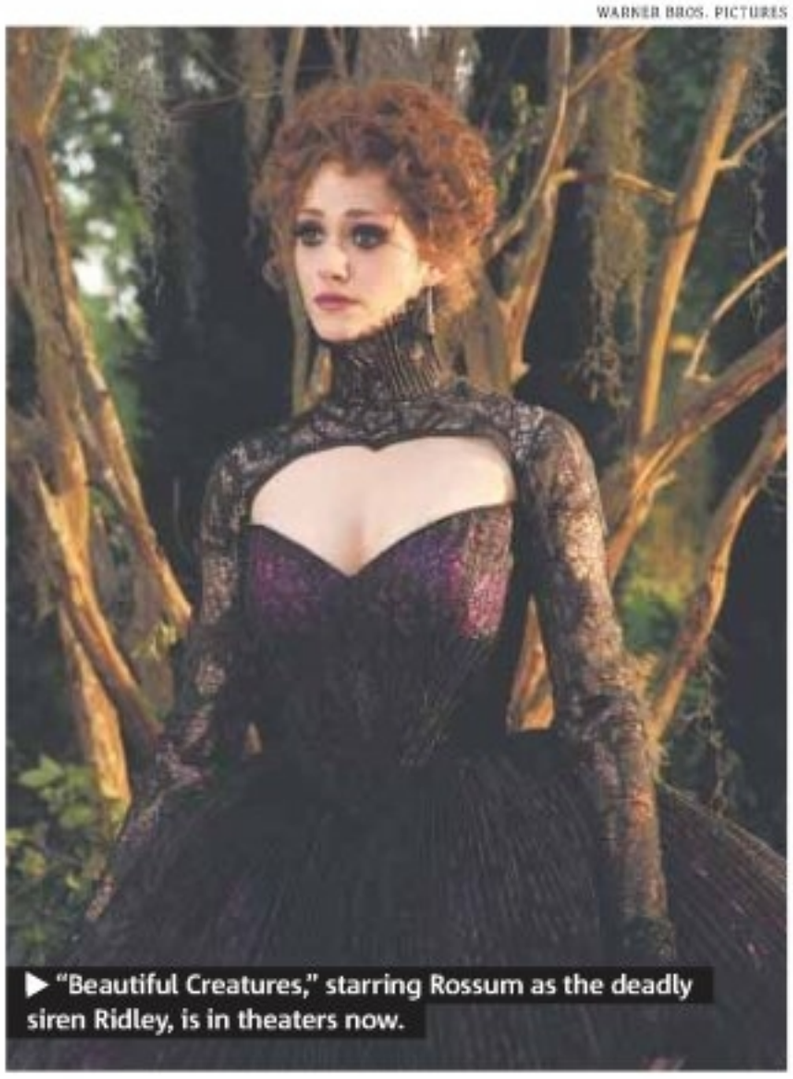
And you have a new album out, "Sentimental Journey," full of song standards from the mid-20th century.

It's an ongoing struggle and negotiation with my own brain, trying to figure out what project gets what amount of time. But I really wanted to make this record, which is why I did it with my own money and then partnered with Warners to release it, because I've always loved this kind of music. There were obvious ones that I wanted to put on, like Frank Sinatra's "Summer Wind" and "Apple Blossom Time," and then there were others that fell into my lap. Like, I was making a song list and a guy sitting next to me on the plane was being nosy — fortunately for me, because he said, "It looks like you like old music. Do you know Connie Francis' 'Many Tears Ago'?" When I got off the plane I found it on iTunes and loved it and it ended up on the record. I'm a strong believer in never knowing where a good idea is going to come from.

But not every airplane encounter ...

He could've also been a creepy serial killer who then hijacked my car and murdered me, but I'm still here, so I'm OK. It doesn't seem like a guy who's into Connie Francis, although ... maybe.

WARNER BROS. PICTURES



▶ "Beautiful Creatures," starring Rossum as the deadly siren Ridley, is in theaters now.

Ned Ehrbar
METRO WORLD NEWS

Q&A

With this and "Shameless," you're playing some really juicy characters — different from the types of roles you've done.

Playing the nice girl in "Day After Tomorrow" and "Poseidon," "Phantom of the Opera," those kinds of characters were coming more easily to me in terms of just getting the parts. I think that these characters for me were just more thrilling because I like to try to find the emotional understanding [behind them]. That gray area is more close to real life. What I like to do is play against what you think that stereotype of that person would be. With this girl [in "Beautiful Creatures"], who's happy to watch men get run over by trains, you think of somebody who's quite malicious. But if you play it with a sense of fun and happiness, all of a sudden it becomes, "Oh, that's an interesting choice."

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Review

'Snitch'

Director: Ric Roman Waugh
Rating: PG-13
Grade: ❶❷❸❹❺

When he's not piggybacking on already established franchises ("Journey 2," "Fast Five," "G.I. Joe 2"), The Rock — sorry: Dwayne Johnson — periodically headlines shockingly dour thrillers that are more interesting than they should be without being all that interesting. 2010's not-very-aptly-titled "Faster" was sold as a revenge spectacular, only to reveal itself as a brooding, humorless look at guilt and rot. The new "Snitch" is even slower and more humor-impaired.

Johnson plays John Matthews, a moneyed father trying to take down a drug cartel after his son is busted with pills. His single-minded pursuit winds up embroiling Daniel ("The Walking Dead" star Jon Bernthal), an ex-con trying to make good who, desperate for cash, reluctantly serves as a link to the violent drug world. That John is so obsessed with saving his son he doesn't think about endangering the life of another family man lends queasy complexity to what would typically be a straightforward family-first thriller.

But is "Snitch" interesting or just stupid? Much of the film wobbles, drunkenly, between the two extremes. And right when toying with drug dealers and DEA heavies — including Barry Pepper, struggling mightily to overcome the funniest goatee since Evil Spock's on "Star Trek" — would seem to have built to a spectacular quagmire, "Snitch" takes the easy way out. How? By visiting the gun shop. Guns make everything better.

"Snitch" is "inspired by true events," which traditionally translates as "not much of this happened." But writer Justin Hough keeps relative fidelity to truth, or at least denies us lurid thrills. That may mean a classier film, but also a fairly boring and plodding one, and it's never clear why you need to hire The Rock to play a straight dramatic role. Johnson is talented, but he's not terribly convincing as an ordinary dad, unless most ordinary dads are built like refrigerators. "Snitch" would have greater verisimilitude — and entertainment value — with someone whose arms didn't have the breadth of some humans.

MATT PRIGGE

STEVE DIETL

▶ Jon Bernthal and Dwayne Johnson strut en route to taking down a drug cartel in "Snitch," out today.

Repertory Spotlight

Chris Marker Double Feature

The great French cine-essayist (and cat lover), who died last July, is best known for "La Jetée" and "Sans Soleil," but he has a dense, deep record of rewarding work always worth delving into. "Grin Without a Cat" (1977) is his epic, subjective look at the political turmoil that engulfed the New Left in France in the '60s and '70s. The even more obscure "Level Five," from 1997, uses Japanese history as a launching pad for a rumination on history, memory and computers.

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GETTY IMAGES

A model show for the industry

Contrary to what you might think, 'The Face' is not another 'America's Next Top Model' Host and coaches tell us why we need to tune in

"America's Next Top Model" has met its match: Oxygen's new reality show, "The Face," showcases the journeys of 12 unknown models competing to go from obscurity to superstardom. The models are placed into teams where they are coached by some of the fashion industry's most renowned leaders: models Naomi Campbell, Coco Rocha, Karolina Kurkova and former "America's Next Top Model" judge and photographer Nigel Barker. We met up with some of the show's stars at its red carpet premiere, and they dished to us about cast chemistry, how this show differs from "ANTM" and more.

Barker, on going from a judge to a host

"I interact more with the models than I ever did before. As a judge, previously, I only saw them once in a blue moon, but now I'm with them every day, 24/7. I'm there when they get turned down and [I ask] 'What happened? How do you feel?' On 'The Face' everyone is there to help and build. There are no judges. The only judges are the clients."

Rocha, on how her work with the CFDA on healthy body image helped her on "The Face"

"It was Anna Wintour who gave me that platform [to] talk to the CFDA on behalf of the models and to the world. Every time I talk about it, I get such great feedback and I think, 'Why don't I continue?' It's exciting to have great photos, but I want to leave this industry for people to go, 'Hey, I remember you. You're that girl that tried to help out the models.'"

Kurkova, on seeing changes in her team of models

"Each girl [had] a different journey and experience, but with all of them I saw huge changes. Everything we made them do was what this industry was about and what they're gonna face. They were exposed to incredible people in the industry, like Patrick Demarchelierß∑. That's huge for these girls who have no experience, who have done nothing in this industry. They're learning from the best."

Bria Mariette
letters@metro.us

Not 'ANTM'

Barker, on how 'The Face' differs from "ANTM":

"They both have their place in different ways. ... 'The Face' had to distinguish itself. There are no judges. We've got three different [models]. You get their vision on what made them big and what's important to them. You never see that on other reality show[s]."

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Throw a stellar Oscar party

If you're hosting pals over this Sunday night, roll out the red carpet for them 'Anything to indulge your guests a little bit and make them feel like a celebrity for the evening, I think, is a nice touch,' says Boston-based event planner Lo McShay We got her tips on just how to do that

Food: You could tie your menu to this year's favorite films (Life of Apple Pi, anyone?), or, McShay says, you can model your meal after the very dinner the Oscar attendees will be having at Wolfgang Puck's Governor's Ball on Oscar night.

"I took my inspiration for the foods that I'm going to be serving at my girls' get-together based off of his menu, which is all-around comfort food this year," she says. She and Puck will be serving red snapper, chicken pot pie, soup shooters and a grilled peach-and-tomato salad (skewer yours for easy clean-up). You can find her recipes for these dishes at www.loloevents.net.

For an extra touch, "make a little sign for the buffet that hints to your guests that these are directly off the menu that Wolfgang Puck is going to be serving at the Governor's Ball. Even make a printed menu for your guests that says Governor's Ball 2013 on it." The goal is to "give your guests an experience of being there at the Oscars."

Lo McShay

STUDIO VITRI

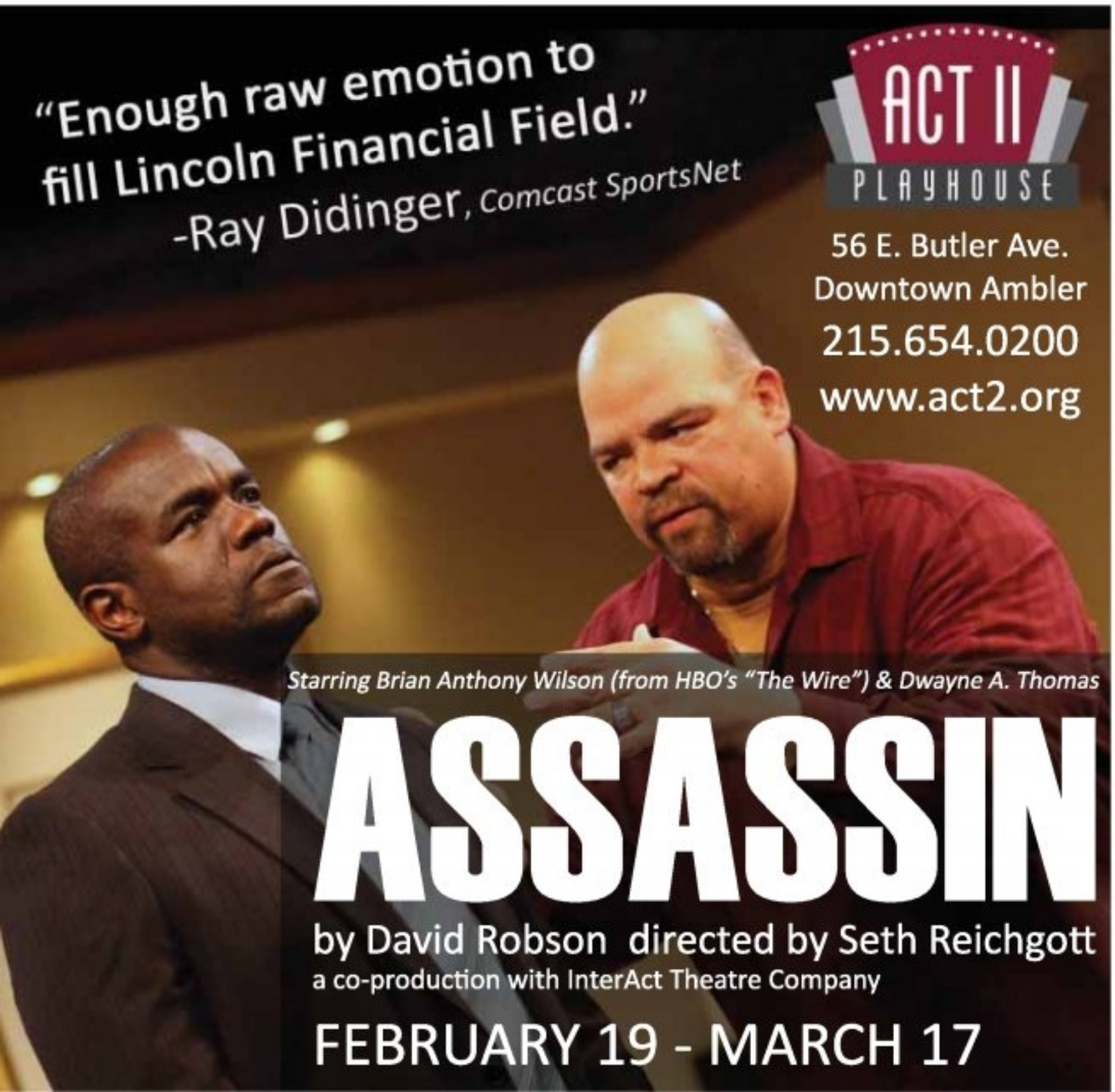
Drinks: For such a celebratory occasion, McShay says you can't go wrong with a little bubbly. At her Oscar party, she's serving up "probably the most iconic champagne cocktail: the New York Metropolitan Hotel's Champagne Cocktail." It's easy to make it yourself: Soak a sugar cube in bitters, toss it in the bottom of a Champagne flute, top it with Champagne and, if you're feeling extra fancy, add a bit of cognac at the top.

Decor: For her shindig, McShay is modeling her living room after the "Architectural Digest"-designed green room where presenters and nominees will mingle during the show. "'Architectural Digest' has said that their inspiration for this year's green room is a place where contemporary celebrities would run into famous celebrities of bygone eras, so [I'm incorporating] that mix of current, modern interior design with vintage touches." How to bring a bit of old Hollywood into your pad this weekend? Serve your cocktails on a bar cart, if you have one, and pick up a luxurious-looking crushed velvet throw pillow or blanket "just add a little something texture-wise to give that sense of a bygone era," she says. Color-wise, gold is a good hue to play around with.

Meredith Engel
meredith.engel@metro.us

ELLY BENVENUTO

Let's do shots ... of soup!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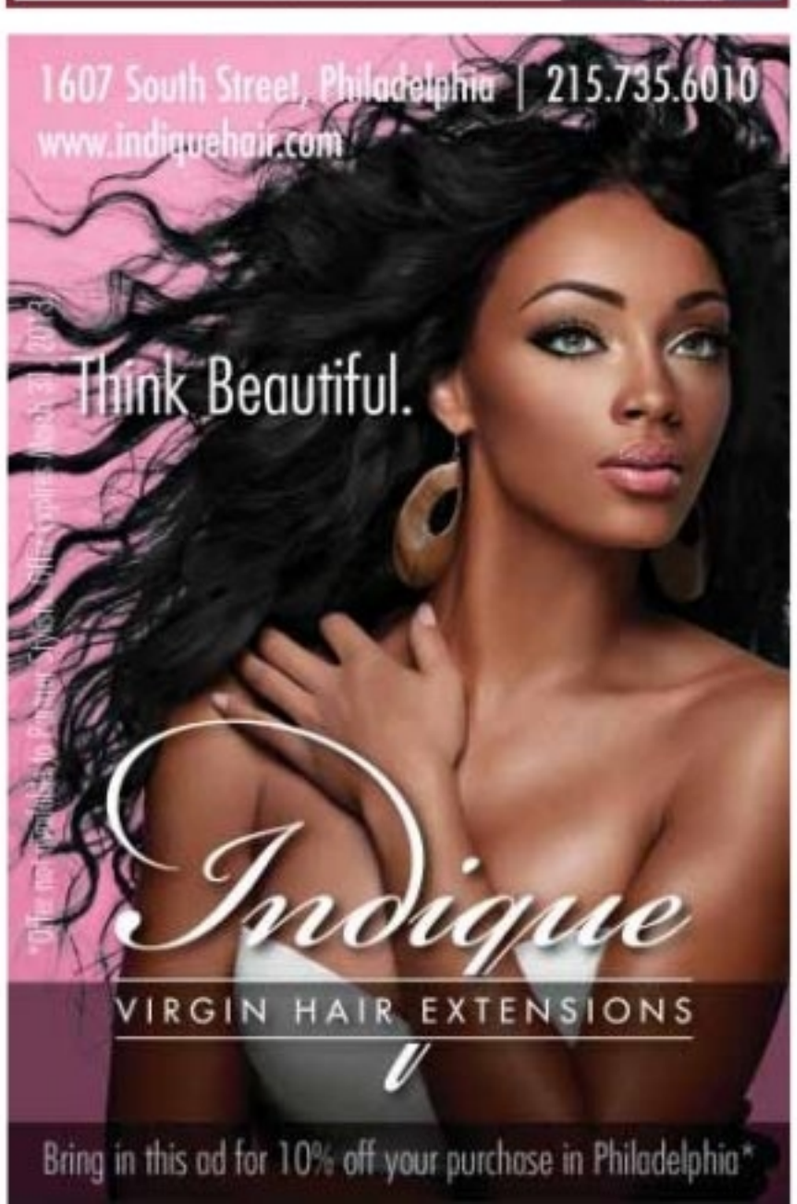
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Cocktail ideas

The Nominees Are ...

- 2 parts Pinnacle Blackberry Vodka
- 4 parts ginger ale
- Splash lime juice

Directions: Mix in a glass with ice and garnish with an orange slice.

Zero Dark Thirsty

- 1.5 parts SVEDKA Cherry

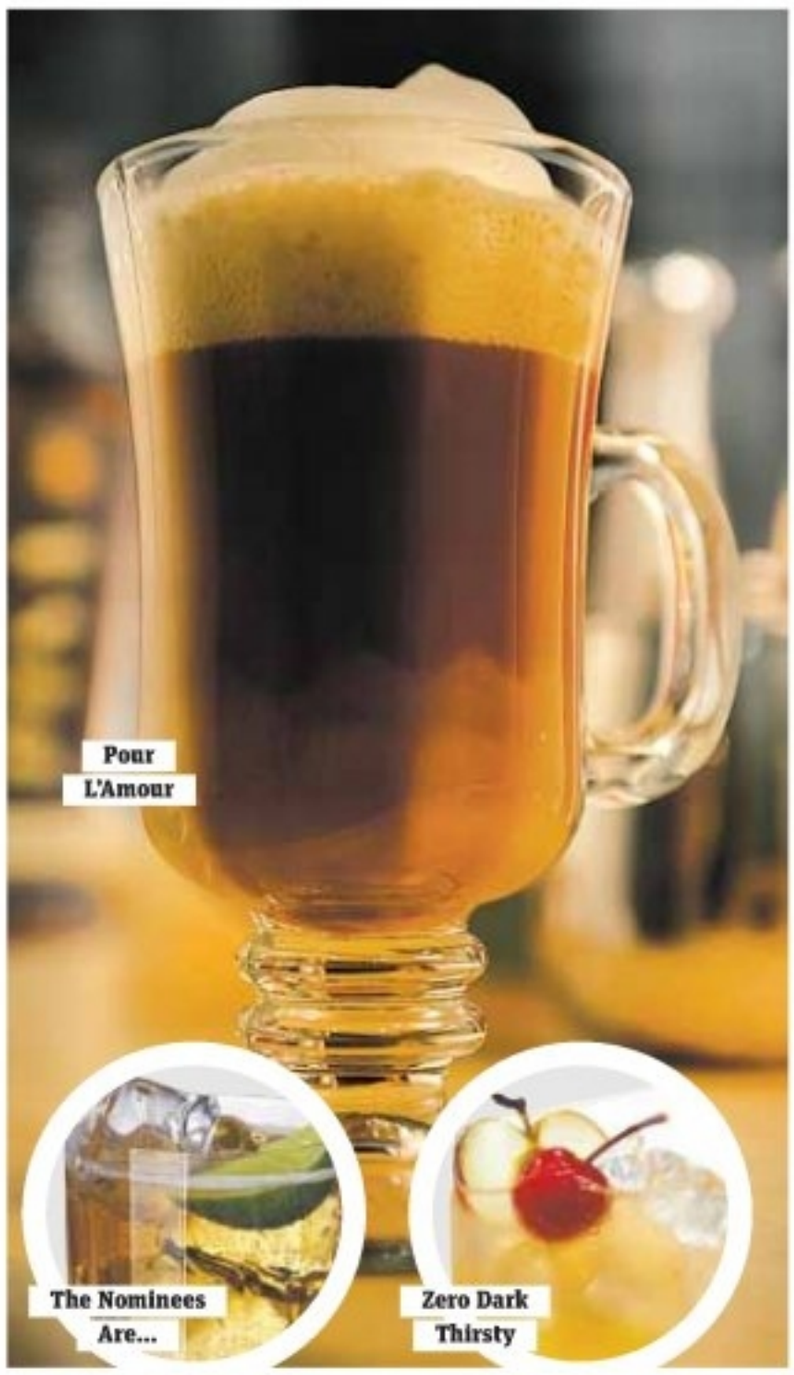
Directions: Build in rocks glass. Top with fresh apple juice. Garnish with an apple slice.

Pour L'Amour

- 1 oz. Pisa Liqueur
- ⅓ oz. Absolut vodka
- 1 oz. cream

Directions: Fill a shaker with ice and add all ingredients. Strain over ice in a rock glass.

METRO/ME



Unchained Western

Inspired by "Django Unchained"

- 2-3 chunks of frozen pineapple
- ½ oz. lemon juice
- 1 tsp. maraschino syrup
- 2 oz. rye whiskey
- Polar Lemon Seltzer
- Lemon twist, to garnish

Directions: In a cocktail shaker, muddle the pineapple, syrup, lemon juice and whiskey. Add ice and shake well. Strain into a coupe, top with seltzer. Garnish with lemon twist.

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'Cult' is a show within a show

'There is nothing too meta' for the new CW mystery series about a reporter and the rabid, cult-like fans of a hit TV show called ... 'Cult'

JACK BOWARD/THE CW

Matt Davis and Jessica Lucas investigate the cult.

The new mystery series "Cult" follows investigative journalist Jeff Sefton (Matt Davis) as the disappearance of his brother leads him into the dark underworld of the rabid, cult-like fans of a hit TV show called ... "Cult." It's about a cult with a charismatic leader named Billy Grimm, who is played by an actor named Roger Reeves, who is played, in real life, by Robert Knepper. Still with us?

"What was interesting to me was to try to create a show that was truly unique, was truly different. And in doing so, yeah, it can make it a little harder to explain and describe," creator Rockne S. O'Bannon admits. "It's also a show with a lot going on, and I have a great deal of faith and trust in the audience to be able to hook into that. But we're very aware that we have a complex, multifaceted show going on, and we're trying to keep it as clear in our heads as possible."

TV veteran and "Farscape" creator O'Bannon is no stranger to obsessed fans, he admits. "The origin of the show actually did come out of my 'Farscape' experience, where I witnessed the kind of incredible fan passion for a show and the ability of fans to find each other through social media and connect up," he says. "It started me thinking, what if the show were something with a little bit darker edge, and what kind of fans would that draw?"

Multilayered mysteries and disappearances are one thing, but the show-within-a-show conceit also gives O'Bannon and his writers chances for inside jokes that play with the audience even more.

"From our perspective, there is nothing too meta," O'Bannon says. "One of the things that I really got excited about was how to create a visceral experience for the audience and really try to take the glass away from between the television show and the audience, take away that control. ... I'm hoping that the audiences will go along for the ride."

Ned Ehrbar
METRO WORLD NEWS

Staying close to home

"Cult" marks another CW series for star Matt Davis, whose "Vampire Diaries" character, Alaric, bit the dust at the end of last season. Luckily, the network had another role in mind for him.

"I knew that they were going to write Alaric off the show, and I called my agents to let them know that I needed to find another job. And they sent me a few scripts over the weekend, one of which was 'Cult.' And it was clearly the best one of the bunch," he says.

The producer felt the same about Davis, making him an offer for the role right away.

TV watch list

'Out There'

COMEDY. Featuring the voice talents of Fred Armisen, Megan Mullally and Linda Cardellini, this new animated series sounds like a composite of all the best elements of "Freaks and Geeks" and "Daria." It chronicles the quirky misadventures of two geeky friends living in a small town in the middle of nowhere and trying to survive the perilous world of high school. **Series premiere, Friday, 10:30 p.m., IFC**

85th annual Academy Awards

AWARD SHOW. What else would you be watching on Sunday? After a heated awards season, film's biggest night is finally here. We have high hopes with Seth MacFarlane officiating, and it'll be nice to see the "Les Miz" cast's movie-musical tribute and 9-year-old Quvenzhane Wallis' newest puppy purse. All eyes are on Jennifer Lawrence and Jessica Chastain as the main contenders for Best Actress, but it's also likely Adele will take home Best Original Song, and we're always on board when she's around. **Sunday, 8 p.m., ABC**

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ARGO (R) Fri and Sat 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:40. Digital Presentation; Sun 2:10-5:00-7:45-10:30. Digital Presentation
BEAUTIFUL CREATURES (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:25, 12:00, 1:45, 3:00, 4:45, 6:05, 7:45, 9:05, 10:50, 12:15. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:25-12:00-1:45-3:00-4:45-6:05-7:35-9:05-10:30. Digital Presentation
DARK SKIES (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:45, 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45, 12:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:45-1:30-4:10-7:00-9:45. Digital Presentation
DJANGO UNCHAINED (R) Fri 10:00. Digital Presentation; Sat 9:15. Digital Presentation; Sun 9:50. Digital Presentation
DOCTOR BELLO (NR) 10:15, 1:05, 3:45, 6:30, 9:00.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH (PG) Fri 9:40, 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:25. Digital Presentation; Sat 10:00. Digital Presentation;SFF-Sensory Friendly Film; Sat 11:00-1:45-4:15-6:45. Digital Presentation; Sun 9:40-11:30-2:10-4:50-7:25. Digital Presentation
ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH 3D (PG) Fri 10:25, 1:00, 3:40, 6:15, 8:45. RealD 3D; Sat 9:40-12:00-2:45-5:15-7:45-10:10. RealD 3D; Sun 10:25-1:00-3:40-6:15-8:45. RealD 3D
A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD (R) Fri 10:55, 11:40, 12:05, 1:50, 2:20, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 7:05, 7:45, 9:55, 10:30, 11:00, 12:30. Digital Presentation; Sat 11:15-12:05-1:50-4:30-5:30-7:05-9:55-11:00-12:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:55-11:40-12:05-1:50-2:20-4:30-5:00-5:30-7:05-7:45-9:55-10:15. Digital Presentation
A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (R) Fri and Sat 10:00, 12:45, 3:30, 6:15, 9:00, 11:45. Digital Presentation;IMAX; Sun 10:00-12:45-3:30-6:15-9:00. Digital Presentation;IMAX
HANSEL & GRETEL: WITCH HUNTERS (R) Fri and Sat 9:45, 2:40, 7:30, 12:25. Digital Presentation; Sun 9:45-2:40-7:30. Digital Presentation
HANSEL & GRETEL: WITCH HUNTERS 3D (R) Fri and Sat 12:10, 5:05, 10:05. RealD 3D; Sun 12:10-5:05-10:00. RealD 3D
THE HOBBIT: AN UNEXPECTED JOURNEY IN 3D (PG-13) 10:20. RealD 3D
IDENTITY THIEF (R) Fri 10:40, 12:20, 1:25, 3:20, 4:20, 6:20, 7:40, 9:10, 10:35, 12:10. Digital Presentation; Sat 9:30-12:20-1:25-3:20-4:20-6:20-7:40-10:35. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:40-12:20-1:25-3:20-4:20-6:20-7:40-9:10-10:20. Digital Presentation
LIFE OF PI 3D (PG) 2:35, 8:05. RealD 3D
MAMA (PG-13) Fri and Sat 9:55, 12:35, 3:25, 6:10, 8:50, 11:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 9:55-12:35-3:25-6:10-8:50. Digital Presentation
QUARTET (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:20, 2:05, 4:55, 7:35, 10:25.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation; Sun 11:20-2:05-4:55-7:35-10:10.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
SAFE HAVEN (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:35, 12:10, 1:35, 3:05, 4:25, 6:00, 7:20, 8:55, 10:30, 12:00. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:35-12:10-1:35-3:05-4:25-6:00-7:20-8:55-10:05. Digital Presentation
SIDE EFFECTS (R) 10:50, 1:30, 4:05, 6:50, 9:45. Digital Presentation
SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK (R) Fri and Sat 10:05, 1:10, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:05-1:10-4:15-7:15-10:10. Digital Presentation
SNITCH (PG-13) Fri and Sat 10:30, 11:45, 1:15, 2:30, 4:00, 5:15, 6:45, 8:00, 9:30, 10:45, 12:15. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:30-11:45-1:15-2:30-4:00-5:15-6:45-8:00-9:30-10:35. Digital Presentation
WARM BODIES (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:00, 1:40, 4:15, 6:55, 9:40, 12:20. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:00-1:40-4:15-6:55-9:40. Digital Presentation
WRECK-IT RALPH (PG) 9:50, 12:30. Digital Presentation
ZERO DARK THIRTY (R) Fri and Sat 3:10, 6:40, 10:20. Digital Presentation; Sun 3:10-6:40-10:15. Digital Presentation

AMC Plymouth Meeting Mall 12
888-AMC-4FUN
Next to Plymouth Meeting Mall
BEAUTIFUL CREATURES (PG-13) Fri 1:15, 4:10, 7:05, 10:10. Digital Presentation; Sat and Sun 10:20-1:15-4:10-7:05-10:10. Digital Presentation
THE BERLIN FILE (NR) Fri 10:55, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00. Digital Presentation; Sat and Sun 10:30-1:30-4:20-7:10-10:00. Digital Presentation
ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH (PG) Fri 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00. Digital Presentation; Sat and Sun 10:00-12:00-2:30-5:00-7:30-10:00. Digital Presentation
ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH 3D (PG) Fri 11:00, 1:20, 3:30, 6:00, 8:15. RealD 3D; Sat and Sun 10:45-1:00-3:30-6:00-8:15. RealD 3D
HANSEL & GRETEL: WITCH HUNTERS (R) 3:00, 7:25. Digital Presentation
HANSEL & GRETEL: WITCH HUNTERS 3D (R) 12:45, 5:15, 9:50. RealD 3D
MAMA (PG-13) Fri 12:40, 3:20, 5:45, 8:10, 10:30. Digital Presentation; Sat 10:20-12:40-3:20-5:45-8:10-10:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:20-12:40-3:00-5:20-7:40-10:00. Digital Presentation
PARENTAL GUIDANCE (PG) Fri 12:15, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15. Digital Presentation; Sat and Sun 9:55-12:15-2:35-4:55-7:15. Digital Presentation
QUARTET (PG-13) Fri 12:50, 3:10, 5:30, 7:50, 10:15.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation; Sat and Sun 10:30-12:50-3:10-5:30-7:50-10:15.C INDEPENDENT;Digital Presentation
SAFE HAVEN (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:15, 1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 6:45, 7:40, 9:45, 10:20. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:15-1:00-2:00-4:00-5:00-6:45-7:40-9:30-10:15. Digital Presentation
SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK (R) Fri 11:00, 1:50, 4:35, 7:20, 9:30, 10:15. Digital Presentation; Sat and Sun 10:30-1:30-4:15-7:20-9:30-10:15. Digital Presentation
SNITCH (PG-13) Fri and Sat 11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:30. Digital Presentation; Sun 11:30-2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30. Digital Presentation

AMC Woodhaven 10
888-AMC-4FUN
Route 13, near I-95 and Woodhaven Road exit
BEAUTIFUL CREATURES (PG-13) Fri 1:45, 4:30, 7:40, 10:30; Sat 11:00-1:45-4:30-7:40-10:30.; Sun 11:00-1:45-4:30-7:40.
DARK SKIES (PG-13) Fri 1:10, 3:35, 6:00, 8:25, 10:45. Digital Presentation; Sat 10:50-1:10-3:35-6:00-8:25-10:45. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:50-1:10-3:35-6:00-8:25. Digital Presentation
ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH (PG) Fri 2:35, 7:00. Digital Presentation; Sat and Sun 10:00-2:35-7:00. Digital Presentation
ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH 3D (PG) Fri and Sat 12:15, 4:50, 9:15. RealD 3D; Sun 12:15-4:50. RealD 3D
A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD (R) Fri 1:00, 3:25, 5:50, 8:20, 10:45. Digital Presentation; Fri 2:20-4:40-7:10-9:40.; Sat 10:05-1:00-3:25-5:50-8:20-10:45. Digital Presentation; Sat 12:00-2:20-4:40-7:10-9:40.; Sun 10:05-1:00-3:25-5:50-8:20. Digital Presentation; Sun 12:00-2:20-4:40-7:10.
IDENTITY THIEF (R) Fri 12:25, 3:00, 5:35, 8:10, 10:40. Digital Presentation; Sat 10:20-12:25-3:00-5:35-8:10-10:40. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:20-12:25-3:00-5:35-8:10. Digital Presentation
SAFE HAVEN (PG-13) Fri 1:20, 4:10, 7:30, 10:10. Digital Presentation; Sat 10:30-1:20-4:10-7:30-10:10. Digital Presentation; Sun 10:30-1:20-4:10-7:30. Digital Presentation
SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK (R) Fri 1:35, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50; Sat 10:50-1:35-4:20-7:05-9:50.; Sun 10:50-1:35-4:20-7:05.
SNITCH (PG-13) Fri 12:55, 3:15, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20; Sat 10:40-12:55-3:15-5:40-8:00-10:20.; Sun 10:40-12:55-3:15-5:40-8:00.
WARM BODIES (PG-13) Fri 12:35, 2:55, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25; Sat 10:10-12:35-2:55-5:15-7:50-10:25.; Sun 10:10-12:35-2:55-5:15-7:50.

Bryn Mawr Film Institute
610-527-9898
824 West Lancaster Avenue
AMOUR (PG-13) Fri 1:15, 4:00, 7:00; Sat 1:45-4:30-7:15.; Sun 4:30.
THE LITTLE PRINCESS (1939) (G) Sat 11:00
THE OSCAR NOMINATED SHORT FILMS 2013: ANIMATION Fri 9:45; Sat 4:15.; Sun 11:00.
THE OSCAR NOMINATED SHORT FILMS 2013: LIVE ACTION Fri 4:15; Sat 9:45.; Sun 1:30.
SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK (R) Fri and Sat 1:30, 7:15, 9:45; Sun 4:15.
TALK CINEMA (NR) Sun 10:00
YANNICK NEZET-SEGUIN CONDUCTS THE RITE OF SPRING (NR) Sun 2:00

Clearview's Anthony Wayne
610-225-0980
109 West Lancaster Avenue
A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD (R) Fri 4:15, 7:00, 9:50; Sat 1:30-4:15-7:00-9:50.; Sun 1:30-4:15-7:00.
IDENTITY THIEF (R) Fri 4:00, 7:00, 9:40. Digital Projection; Sat 1:00-4:00-7:00-9:40. Digital Projection; Sun 4:00-7:00. Digital Projection
ONE LIFE (NR) Sun 2:00
SAFE HAVEN (PG-13) Fri 3:45, 6:45, 9:40; Sat 1:15-3:45-6:45-9:40.; Sun 1:15-3:45-6:45.
SIDE EFFECTS (R) Fri 4:30, 7:30, 10:00; Sat 1:15-4:30-7:30-10:00.; Sun 1:15-4:30-7:30.
SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK (R) Fri 3:45, 6:45, 9:30; Sat 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:30.; Sun 12:45-3:45-6:45.

Clearview's Bala Theatre
610-668-4695
157 Bala Avenue
ARGO (R) Fri 3:30, 6:30, 9:20; Sat 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:20.; Sun 12:30-3:30-6:30.
BEAUTIFUL CREATURES (PG-13) Fri 9:25. Digital Projection; Sat 12:45-3:45-6:45-9:25. Digital Projection; Sun 12:45-3:45-6:45. Digital Projection
QUARTET (PG-13) Fri 4:00, 7:00, 9:30; Sat 1:00-4:00-7:00-9:30.; Sun 1:00-4:00-7:00.

Hiway Theatre
215-886-9800
212 Old York Road
AMOUR (PG-13) Fri 1:50, 4:45, 7:30. English Subtitles; Sat 11:15-1:50-4:45-7:30. English Subtitles; Sun 11:15-1:50-4:45. English Subtitles

Narberth Stadium 2
610-667-0115
129 North Narberth Avenue
IDENTITY THIEF (R) Fri 4:30, 7:05, 9:35. DLP-Digital Projection; Sat 1:55-4:30-7:05-9:35. DLP-Digital Projection; Sun 1:55-4:30-7:05. DLP-Digital Projection
SAFE HAVEN (PG-13) Fri 4:25, 7:00, 9:35. DLP-Digital Projection; Sat 1:50-4:25-7:00-9:35. DLP-Digital Projection; Sun 1:50-4:25-7:00. DLP-Digital Projection

Regal Marketplace 24
800-326-3264 341
180 Mill Road
BEAUTIFUL CREATURES (PG-13) 12:35, 1:40, 3:25, 4:30, 6:35, 7:30, 9:35, 10:25
DARK SKIES (PG-13) 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
DJANGO UNCHAINED (R) 3:20, 10:15
ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH (PG) 12:10, 2:30, 5:00, 7:10, 9:30
ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH 3D (PG) 1:05, 3:35, 6:30, 8:50. RealD 3D
A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD (R) 12:25, 1:10, 2:10, 2:50, 3:50, 4:40, 5:20, 6:40, 7:20, 7:55, 9:10, 9:45, 10:20
THE HOBBIT: AN UNEXPECTED JOURNEY IN 3D (PG-13) 6:05, 9:40
IDENTITY THIEF (R) 12:00, 1:50, 2:40, 4:35, 5:15, 7:15, 8:00, 10:05, 10:45
KAI PO CHE (NR) 1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 9:40
LES MISERABLES (PG-13) 11:55, 6:50
LINCOLN (PG-13) 12:15, 3:30, 6:45, 10:00
PARENTAL GUIDANCE (PG) 12:40, 3:10
SAFE HAVEN (PG-13) 12:50, 2:00, 4:00, 4:50, 7:00, 7:45, 9:50, 10:40
SIDE EFFECTS (R) 2:15, 4:55, 7:50, 10:30
SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK (R) 1:55, 4:45, 7:35, 10:35
SNITCH (PG-13) 1:45, 4:25, 7:25, 10:05
SPECIAL 26 (SPECIAL CHABBIS) (NR) 12:05, 3:10, 6:20, 9:25
WARM BODIES (PG-13) 12:30, 2:55, 5:25, 8:05, 10:45
ZERO DARK THIRTY (R) 1:35, 5:05, 8:30
ZILA GHAZIABAD (NR) 2:35, 6:10, 9:20

Regal Plymouth Meeting 10
800-326-3264 335
1011 W Ridge Pike
ARGO (R) 1:25, 4:10, 7:20, 10:10. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
DARK SKIES (PG-13) 1:20, 3:50, 7:30, 10:15
DJANGO UNCHAINED (R) 1:00, 4:40, 8:15. CC-Closed Captions
A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD (R) 12:50, 2:00, 4:00, 4:50, 7:00, 7:50, 9:50, 10:30. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
IDENTITY THIEF (R) 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
LINCOLN (PG-13) 1:50, 5:10, 8:30. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
SIDE EFFECTS (R) 2:10, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
WARM BODIES (PG-13) 12:55, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
ZERO DARK THIRTY (R) 1:10, 4:35, 8:00. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service

Ritz 5 Movies
215-925-7900
214 Walnut Street
AMOUR (PG-13) Fri 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40; Sat and Sun 1:00-4:00-7:00-9:40.
BEASTS OF THE SOUTHERN WILD (PG-13) Fri 12:15, 2:25, 4:45, 7:35, 9:50; Sat and Sun 12:15-2:25-4:45-7:35-9:50.
LINCOLN (PG-13) Fri 1:15, 5:15, 8:30; Sat and Sun 1:15-5:15-8:30.
QUARTET (PG-13) Fri 12:20, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:45; Sat and Sun 12:20-2:35-4:55-7:15-9:45.
STAND UP GUYS (R) Fri 12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:25, 9:45; Sat and Sun 12:25-2:45-5:05-7:25-9:45.

Ritz East
215-925-7900
2nd Street between Walnut and Chestnut
ARGO (R) Fri 1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 9:40; Sat and Sun 1:00-4:00-7:10-9:40.
LIFE OF PI (PG) Fri 12:45, 3:45, 7:00, 9:30; Sat and Sun 12:45-3:45-7:00-9:30.

Ritz at the Bourse
215-440-1181
400 Ranstead Street
56 UP (NR) 1:30, 6:00, 9:00
HAPPY PEOPLE: A YEAR IN THE TAIGA (NR) Fri 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:40; Sat and Sun 1:20-4:20-7:20-9:40.
THE IMPOSSIBLE (PG-13) Fri 1:00, 4:10, 7:05, 9:35; Sat and Sun 1:00-4:10-7:05-9:35.
THE OSCAR NOMINATED SHORT FILMS 2013: ANIMATION Fri 1:10, 3:15, 7:20, 9:50; Sat and Sun 1:10-3:15-7:20-9:50.
THE OSCAR NOMINATED SHORT FILMS 2013: LIVE ACTION Fri 1:00, 3:30, 7:00, 9:30; Sat and Sun 1:00-3:30-7:00-9:30.
THE SHINING (R) Fri 11:59

The Pearl Theatre at Avenue North
215-763-7700
1600 North Broad Street
BEAUTIFUL CREATURES (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:00, 3:50, 6:40, 9:30, 12:10; Sun 12:00-3:50-6:40-9:30.
DARK SKIES (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:10, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 10:10, 12:30; Sun 12:10-2:40-5:00-7:20-10:10.
ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH (PG) 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20
ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH 3D (PG) 12:20
A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD (R) Fri and Sat 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50, 12:10; Sun 12:30-2:50-5:10-7:30-9:50.
IDENTITY THIEF (R) Fri and Sat 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:40, 12:10; Sun 12:00-2:20-4:40-7:00-9:40.
SAFE HAVEN (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:40, 4:20, 6:50, 9:40, 12:20; Sun 12:40-4:20-6:50-9:40.
SNITCH (PG-13) Fri and Sat 12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 10:00, 12:30; Sun 12:00-2:30-4:50-7:10-10:00.
WARM BODIES (PG-13) Fri and Sat 2:20, 12:00; Sun 2:20.

UA Grant Plaza 9
800-326-3264 651
1619 Grant Avenue - Grant Plaza 2 Shopping Center
BEAUTIFUL CREATURES (PG-13) Fri 1:15, 4:15, 7:10, 10:15. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service; Sat 1:15-4:15-10:15. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service; Sun 1:15-4:15-7:10-10:15. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
DARK SKIES (PG-13) 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00
ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH (PG) 3:30, 9:45. CC-Closed Captions
ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH 3D (PG) 1:00, 7:15. CC-Closed Captions
A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD (R) 1:50, 4:40, 7:50, 10:40. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
IDENTITY THIEF (R) 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
SAFE HAVEN (PG-13) 1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50. CC-Closed Captions
SIDE EFFECTS (R) 1:20, 4:10, 6:50, 10:10. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK (R) 12:50, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40. CC-Closed Captions
SNITCH (PG-13) 1:40, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service

UA King of Prussia Stadium 16
800-326-3264 644
Located on Mall Boulevard across from The Plaza King of Prussia
BEAUTIFUL CREATURES (PG-13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:20, 10:35. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
DARK SKIES (PG-13) 11:50, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:10
ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH (PG) 2:40, 10:00. CC-Closed Captions
ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH 3D (PG) 12:10, 5:20, 7:45. CC-Closed Captions
A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD (R) 12:00, 1:10, 2:30, 3:50, 5:10, 6:30, 7:50, 9:10, 10:30. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (R) 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Se;IMAX
IDENTITY THIEF (R) 12:50, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
LIFE OF PI 3D (PG) 12:15, 3:20, 6:45, 10:25. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
QUARTET (PG-13) 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05
SAFE HAVEN (PG-13) 12:40, 1:20, 3:30, 4:10, 6:50, 7:30, 9:40, 10:20. CC-Closed Captions
SIDE EFFECTS (R) 1:15, 4:20, 7:15, 10:15. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK (R) 12:30, 3:40, 6:40, 9:30. CC-Closed Captions
SNITCH (PG-13) 11:55, 2:35, 5:15, 8:00, 10:40. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
WARM BODIES (PG-13) 1:40, 4:40, 7:25, 9:55. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service
ZERO DARK THIRTY (R) 1:45, 5:15, 9:20. CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service

UA Main Street 6
800-326-3264 647
3720-40 Main Street
A GOOD DAY TO DIE HARD (R) 1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:50, 10:40
IDENTITY THIEF (R) 1:35, 4:45, 7:45, 10:30
SAFE HAVEN (PG-13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:25, 10:10
SIDE EFFECTS (R) 1:25, 4:25, 7:15, 10:00
SNITCH (PG-13) 1:45, 4:35, 7:35, 10:20

THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson's take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Judd Apatow knows what he's rooting for at the Oscars on Sunday, Rose McGowan is in pain, John Cusack is getting tired of Twitter, and Bob Saget is playing catch-up for awards season.

@JuddApatow
Beasts of the Southern Wild is the only movie I have felt the need to watch multiple times this year. That and Stories We Tell.

@rosemcgowan
My nurse is terrifying. I actually need a pain pill, but I'm too scared to ask. #andihatepills

@johncusack
Enough of these silly jousting games I play - I grow weary

@bobsaget
Watched Lincoln on the movie thing on the plane~ the flight was five minutes shorter than the film. Missed the ending. I'm rooting for him.

Bob Saget

Diane Lane and Josh Brolin to divorce

After eight years of marriage, **Diane Lane** and **Josh Brolin** are over.

A representative for the couple released this curt announcement to Us Weekly: "Diane Lane and Josh Brolin have decided to end their marriage. It was a mutual decision. It is very amicable. It's not ugly, it's just over."

The couple have no children.

What was it, Diane? Was it when he was arrested on a misdemeanor charge of domestic battery in 2004? Or the two public intoxication charges, one in 2008 and the latest on New Year's Day in Santa Monica?

Did you just have enough of the Brolin drunk charm? And if Brolin's rage issues were that bad when you were "happily married," what in the world will happen when he's drowning his sorrows over his split?

If I were the owner of his nearby dive bar, I'd lock my doors.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Lane and Brolin

Rihanna takes off to Hawaii with Brown

So much for those breakup rumors. **Rihanna** is celebrating her 25th birthday this week by escaping to Hawaii with **Chris Brown**. The birthday girl posted a photo to Instagram of her smiling self perched on Brown's lap in the back of a limo. They were also spotted seaside in Honolulu, according to E! News. "Chris was leading Rihanna by the hand," a source says of their beach walk. "She was puffing on something as she walked and seemed very relaxed and happy. Her hair was blowing and she twirled around. She looked totally free and like she was really enjoying her birthday."

Rihanna

Talking points

Lohan returns dress in tatters

Lindsay Lohan is reportedly in hot water with a stylist after returning a borrowed $1,750 dress in tatters and with half of its length torn off, according to Us Weekly. Lohan "said that the dress had ripped [at a club after the fundraiser]. She couldn't possibly wear it like that, so her stylist friend went to the club bouncer and requested some scissors to repair the torn parts of the dress. But what bouncer has scissors?" a source recounts. "She turned [the dress] into a mullet! She's out of control and behaving really badly." For those keeping track, this is the same dress that **Charlie Sheen** offered to help Lohan pay for before the fundraiser, but Lohan declined, deciding to simply borrow the dress instead. Imagine how she might have treated it if it had actually been purchased.

▶ Lohan

LeBeouf drops out of Broadway production

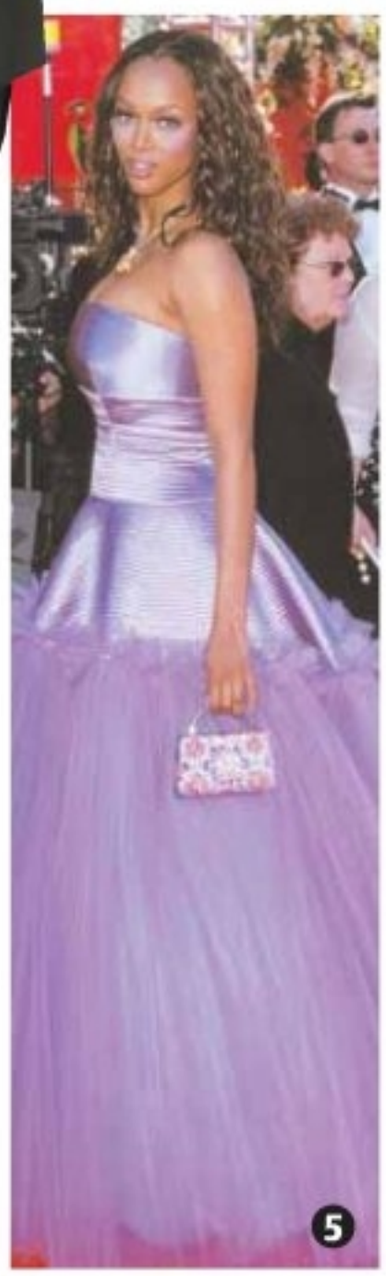
Shia LeBeouf has exited what would have been his Broadway debut — in a revival of "Orphans" alongside **Alec Baldwin** — less than a month before previews were to begin, and there's been plenty of drama since he quit. LaBeouf, who is rather new to Twitter, decided to use the social-networking site to publish e-mails between himself, Baldwin, director **Daniel Sullivan** and co-star **Tom Sturridge** that all suggest some sort of squabble between LeBeouf and Baldwin that precipitated his exit. "I'm too old for disagreeable situations," Sullivan writes in an e-mail to LeBeouf. "You're one hell of a great actor. Alec is who he is. You are who you are. You two are incompatible. I should have known it. This one will haunt me. You tried to warn me. You said you were a different breed. I didn't get it."

Washington could do without Hollywood

Denzel Washington is not one for Hollywood schmoozing. "Even within the industry, I don't have any actor friends. My friends are my old friends," the Oscar nominee tells the Guardian. Sure, but why doesn't he make any new friends, considering how often he co-stars with new people in movies? "Because I don't make friends!" he insists. "Maybe I'm not a butt-kisser. Maybe I'm not a schmoozer. I'm not about to go to a party to try to get a job. I don't want movie-star friends. And being African-American, there were no big movie stars to hang out with anyway, not when I was starting out. They were just the third guy from the back. For whatever reason, I never befriended any white actors." Washington's rep later clarified the report, saying Washington followed up that statement with a few exceptions, including **Tom Hanks**, **Mel Gibson** and **Julia Roberts**.

BONUS: George Clooney seriously knows how to rock a tuxedo.

1



5

The best and worst Academy Award gowns

The good:

1 **Marion Cotillard** wore this stunning Jean Paul Gaultier "mermaid" gown when she won Best Actress for "La Vie en Rose" in 2008.

2 **Michelle Williams,** who was nominated for Best Actress in a Supporting Role for "Brokeback Mountain," let her star shine in this canary yellow Vera Wang gown in 2006.

3 **Sandra Bullock** looked every bit a winner when she picked up a Best Actress statue for "The Blind Side" in 2010 in this Marchesa gown.

4 When she was nominated in 2007 for Best Actress for "Volver," **Penelope Cruz**'s choice of this Atelier Versace gown (complete with a feathered train) proved she was ready to enter Hollywood's A-list.

The bad:

5 **Tyra Banks** needed much more than some "smize" to overlook this 2000 prom dress disaster.

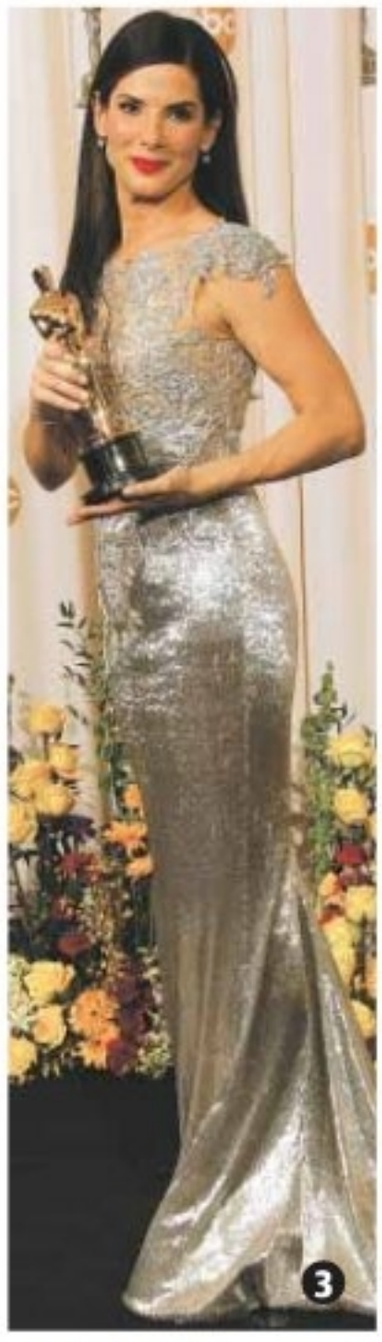
6 The "rose boobs" on **Charlize Theron**'s 2010 Dior Couture gown were two giant missteps for the fashion-savvy Oscar winner.

7 Golden girl **Gwyneth Paltrow** has a goth side? Apparently. Why else would she choose to wear this depressing Alexander McQueen gown in 2002?

8 All you need to know about **Kim Bassinger**'s 1990 Academy Award gown was that she designed it herself.

1: KEVIN MAZUR/WIREIMAGE
2:JEFF KRAVITZ/FILMMAGIC, INC
3: DAN MACMEDAN/WIREIMAGE
4: BOB RIHA JR/WIREIMAGE
5,6, 7: SGRANITZ WIREIMAGE

2



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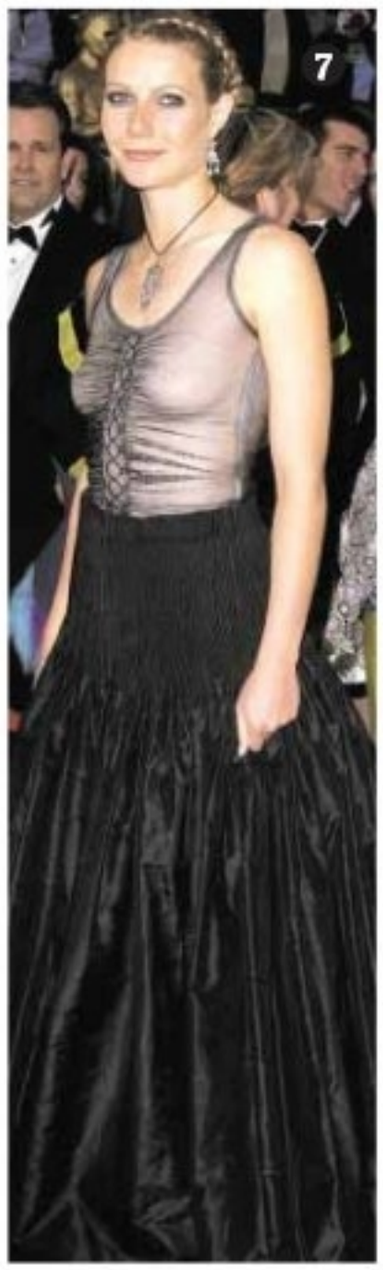

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food

East Passyunk launches its very own Restaurant Week

You already know that East Passyunk has seen a non-stop growth of hip new eateries. Your friends and co-workers have all tasted what the Avenue has to offer and they have plenty of recommendations for you. But your wallet might have other plans. That's why we were giddy to learn about the first-ever East Passyunk Restaurant Week. If Center City's Restaurant Week is for tourists and Main Liners, this one is for the homies.

The way it works is simple: Neighborhood spots create a prix fixe menu so you can get a taste of what the restaurant offers — at a discounted price. If you have so much as glanced at a Restaurant Week menu, this should be very familiar.

Here's a sample of what you can get for just $15:

- A three-course Mexican lunch at **Adobe Cafe** or **El Zarape**, or get your health food grub on at Fuel.
- Or wrap your hands around one of those hyped sandwiches from **Plenty**, paired with a salad and coffee or dessert.

Spend $25 and go here:

- Head to that Italian-American staple, **Marra's**, for dinner and just try not to leave with doggie bags. Take advantage of the $3 glasses of wine, too. Hey, a bargain's a bargain and should never be ignored.
- Haven't made it to the new-since-last-summer spot **Noir**? The regular menu has a serious wingspan, touching on pub fare, Italian creations and burgers. Their famous moules frites are on the prix fixe menu.

And for $35 you can finally say you made it to these places for dinner:

- **Fond** is going to participate in this East Passyunk first, and they're on everybody's to-eat list. You can't go wrong with a menu that includes truffles, short ribs, salmon, and malted-milk chocolate ice cream.
- There's been so much chatter about **Will BYOB**. If you haven't made it to this critically adored 30-seater, get there, stat.

▶ Scallops are on the menu at Will BYOB.

PHOTOS: WILL BYOB

▶ Chris Kearse of Will will show off his dishes during East Passyunk Restaurant Week.

Head down to East Passyunk

Find these restaurants on East Passyunk Avenue from Broad to 9th, and from McKean to Federal streets.

Restaurant Week runs from Sunday, Feb. 24, through Saturday, March 2.

Julia West
letters@metro.us

In the news

Black-tie event to benefit Reading Terminal Market

More than 500 people will pack Reading Terminal Market on Saturday night for the Valentine to the Market Gala, a celebration of the historic train station-turned-food mecca. The black-tie event will feature dancing, live entertainment on two stages, five open bars and tons of food from the market's vendors. We had you at "open bars," didn't we?

As if sampling the market's delicacies wasn't enough, there will also be a "twist-off" competition with participants attempting to twist as many pretzels as possible within three minutes, to the sounds of — what else? — Chubby Checker's "The Twist." Proceeds benefit the Reading Terminal Market Preservation Trust.

RACHEL VIGODA

Nathan Volz goes glitzy for the Oscars

Chef Nathan Volz will be creating some memorable pieces at the 10 Arts Oscar party this Sunday, Feb. 24. And while it may be all glitz and glamour at work, it turns out Volz is just a neighborhood guy.

Can you tell us about the upcoming Oscar party at 10 Arts?
It's a great time for everyone to get dressed up and mingle with some of Philly's finest. I love being able to host such an awesome event in our lounge.
Before working at 10 Arts you were at The Ritz-Carlton in New York City. Is there a big difference working in Philly compared to New York?
Yes, there's a huge difference! I was always surprised at how much I enjoyed New York, since I'm a small-town guy from the Midwest, but Philly gets behind its restaurants and chefs more than any town I've lived in. The people here really know how to support their community and its resources.
When friends or family come to visit, where do you take them?
For sightseeing, Independence Mall, of course. I also like the City Hall tour and the Italian Market for my foodie friends.
Do you have a bar or grocer or coffee shop that you frequent?
Di Bruno's is always great for meat and cheeses, especially charcuterie. I also hit up Sue's Produce on 18th for veggies and fruits to juice at home.
You're going to be a judge at the Cupcake Smash in April. How do you feel having all that power in your hands?
I'm really excited. There are two things that I look for in a great cupcake — first, the right moisture amount in the cake. And the frosting-to-cake ratio has to be just right.

METRO/JW

Hot chef

If you go

10 Arts Bistro and Lounge
The Ritz-Carlton, Philadelphia
10 Avenue of the Arts, South Broad St.

▶ Nathan Volz heats up the kitchen at 10 Arts.

music

Molly Ringwald sings the blues

The 'Breakfast Club' star talks about her musical roots and new album There's even a jazzy take on an iconic 'Club' song

Think of Molly Ringwald, and the soundtrack that comes to mind is a mixtape of pop hits by the likes of Simple Minds and the Psychedelic Furs. The actress is indelibly etched into the pop culture landscape of the 1980s thanks to her starring roles in John Hughes classics like "Pretty in Pink" and "Sixteen Candles," but her first love is jazz. She was introduced to the music by her father, jazz pianist Bob Ringwald, and recorded her first album at the age of 6. More than 30 years later, she's finally released a follow-up, "Except…Sometimes," a collection of (mostly) jazz standards.

"My father is a traditional jazz musician, so I grew up with Bessie Smith and Louis Armstrong and Bix Beiderbecke," Ringwald says. "But my sound is a lot more modern than my dad's. My choice of material came from songs that I've loved throughout the years."

The album includes familiar songbook standards and show tunes like "I'll Take Romance," "Exactly Like You" and "I Get Along Without You Very Well." There is one exception that should please fans of Ringwald's acting career, however — the album ends with her take on "Don't You (Forget About Me)," the Simple Minds hit that opened and closed "The Breakfast Club."

"It's just a nod at where I've come from," she says. "I've grown up and my creativity has gone in all these different directions, but these films, which have meant so much to other people, obviously had a huge impact on my life as well. So I thought it would be interesting to hear that song, which is so associated with that specific era, with beautiful jazz chords behind it."

Shaun Brady
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The Brat Pack princess is all grown up.

PERCUS GREER

Actress, singer and author

"Teen idol" is obviously not much of a long-term career plan, but Molly Ringwald has more than enough job security. Not only is she an actress and a jazz singer (not to mention a mother of three), she's also an author with two books to her credit. Her first, "Getting the Pretty Back: Friendship, Family, and Finding the Perfect Lipstick," was a combination memoir/self-help guide that came out in 2010. Last year, she followed that with a novel, "When It Happens to You: A Novel in Stories."

"I think the trifecta of acting and singing and writing satisfies me creatively," Ringwald says. "I can't imagine not doing any one of them."

While fulfilling different creative urges, Ringwald says that her three outlets also complement one another. "My love of the written word is what makes me love lyrics, and my acting ability allows me to connect with the material and the stories and the characters, so it all comes together."

If you go

Molly Ringwald
Saturday, Feb. 23
8 p.m.
Longwood Gardens
1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square
$42, 610-388-1000
www.longwoodgardens.org

Quoted

"I thought it would be interesting to hear that song … with beautiful jazz chords behind it."

RINGWALD, ON HER COVER OF "DON'T YOU (FORGET ABOUT ME)"

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music

▶ Aly Spaltro is poking her head out of her shell with "Ripely Pine."

SHERVIN LAINEZ

LADY LAMB LEADS HER SONGS TO GREENER PASTURES

Folkie immerses herself in an album that sees an amazing and fuller version of her sound

There are lots of expectations that audiences have when they see someone trying to make it in music with just a guitar and a pail full of songs — especially if that someone is a 23-year-old poet from Maine that only began playing music five years ago. But Aly Spaltro, who makes music under the name Lady Lamb the Beekeeper, does a fine job of confounding any such expectations with "Ripely Pine," her studio debut out this week on the Ba-Da-Bing! label. The collection is splendidly melodic — pretty, yet powerful.

She says the album's curve balls are more about her intuition than anyone's expectations of how her career should go: "After years of playing solo, I kind of knew in the back of my mind that I could hear something else under [these songs]. ... And up until I was in the studio, I didn't know what that was."

Spaltro's quest was to find the missing pieces to the compositions she first honed working late nights in a video store in Maine. The quest brought her from Portland to Boston, where she established herself as one of the top figures on the indie-folk scene — and then to Brooklyn two years ago, where she labored for 12 months with producer Nadim Issa to bring "Ripely Pine" to fruition.

Quoted

"After years of playing solo, I kind of knew in the back of mind that I could hear something else under [these songs]. And up until I was in the studio, I didn't know what that was." SPALTRO

The question of why this album took so long, especially for a folk artist, is the key to why it is so good. Rather than record the battle-tested solo versions of her songs that she had successfully developed in performances — poetry-driven flurries that felt emotionally impulsive — Spaltro borrowed time from talented friends to wrap an imaginary band around her meandering compositions.

She speaks of her songs almost like they are adolescents, trying to find themselves. "It was a huge challenge finding out what they wanted to be," she says.

'I had never heard my music like that'

The final product of "Ripely Pine," rendered at nearly every moment by the untrained Spaltro herself, sounds as if it had always existed this way. Spaltro sounds challenged sometimes too, as if she's barely pulling it all off. Luckily for those of us just hearing her for the first time, the growing pains which got Lady Lamb the Beekeeper here won't be so evident.

Highlights range from the Drag City vibe of "Hair to the Ferris Wheel" to the percolating afro-beat flavors of "Aubergine" to the decadent "You Are the Apple," where Spaltro turned guitar sketches into a full string section.

"It was mind-blowing," she says of the experiment. "I was in tears. I had never heard my music like that."

Jonathan Donaldson
letters@metro.us

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art

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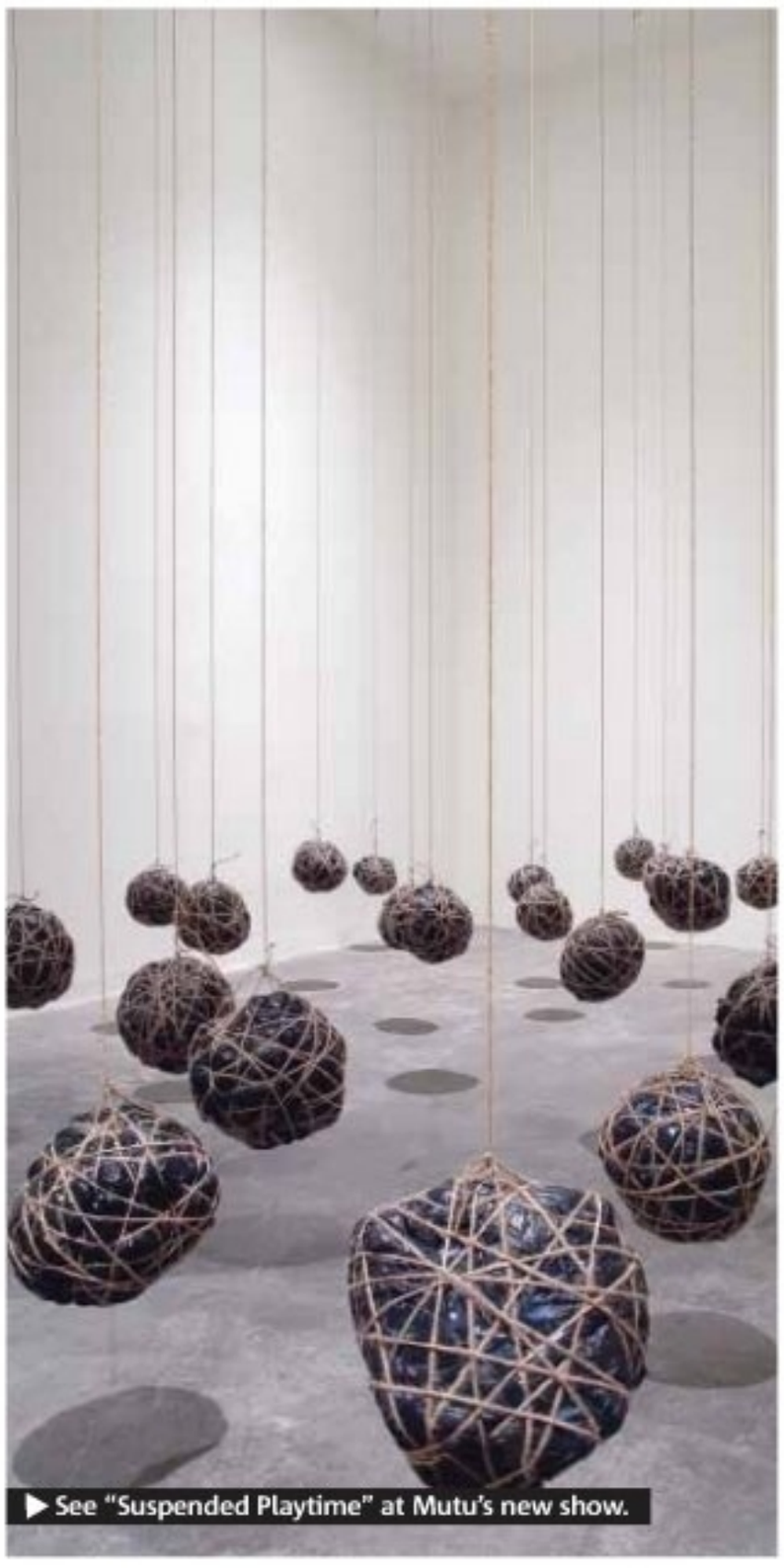
▶ See "Suspended Playtime" at Mutu's new show.

- Wangechi Mutu mixes recycled materials to create collages
- She calls herself a 'transcultural African scissor maniac'

Repurposing plastic bags and twine into handmade soccer balls and pornography into provocative works of collage, Kenyan-born, Brooklyn-based artist, mother and "transcultural African scissor maniac" Wangechi Mutu creates work that "has carved into layers a lot of issues that are both critical and misunderstood."

Drexel University is presenting an overview of Mutu's art as the first exhibit at its newly expanded Leonard Pearlstein Gallery. The show includes "Suspended Playtime," which hangs more than 200 of Mutu's homemade soccer balls from the gallery ceiling; "Eat Cake," which forces viewers to stoop to view video projections; and "The Ark Collection," which juxtaposes portraits of African women in indigenous garb with images of African-American pornography.

▶ "Three Huggers"

"Much of my art process," Mutu says via e-mail, "includes reworking material and reassembling separate parts into a new whole. I pay special attention to the original source of the materials that I use — who the women in these vulgar or glamorous or slightly anonymous publications and settings actually are, what are their voices, their circumstances, their histories. Collage allows me to comment on, to slice up and to subvert the initial sources."

Mutu wants to blur the boundaries between "high" and "low" art. "The work tampers with assumptions and traditions by using disregarded, rescued and recycled materials," she says. "These ordinary women and simple objects are in more than one sense hoisted upward."

Quoted

"Much of my art process includes reworking material and reassembling separate parts into a new whole."
MUTU

If you go

Wangechi Mutu
Through March 30
Leonard Pearlstein Gallery, URBN Center Annex
3401 Filbert St.
Free, 215-895-4917
www.drexel.edu

Shaun Brady
shaun.brady@metro.us

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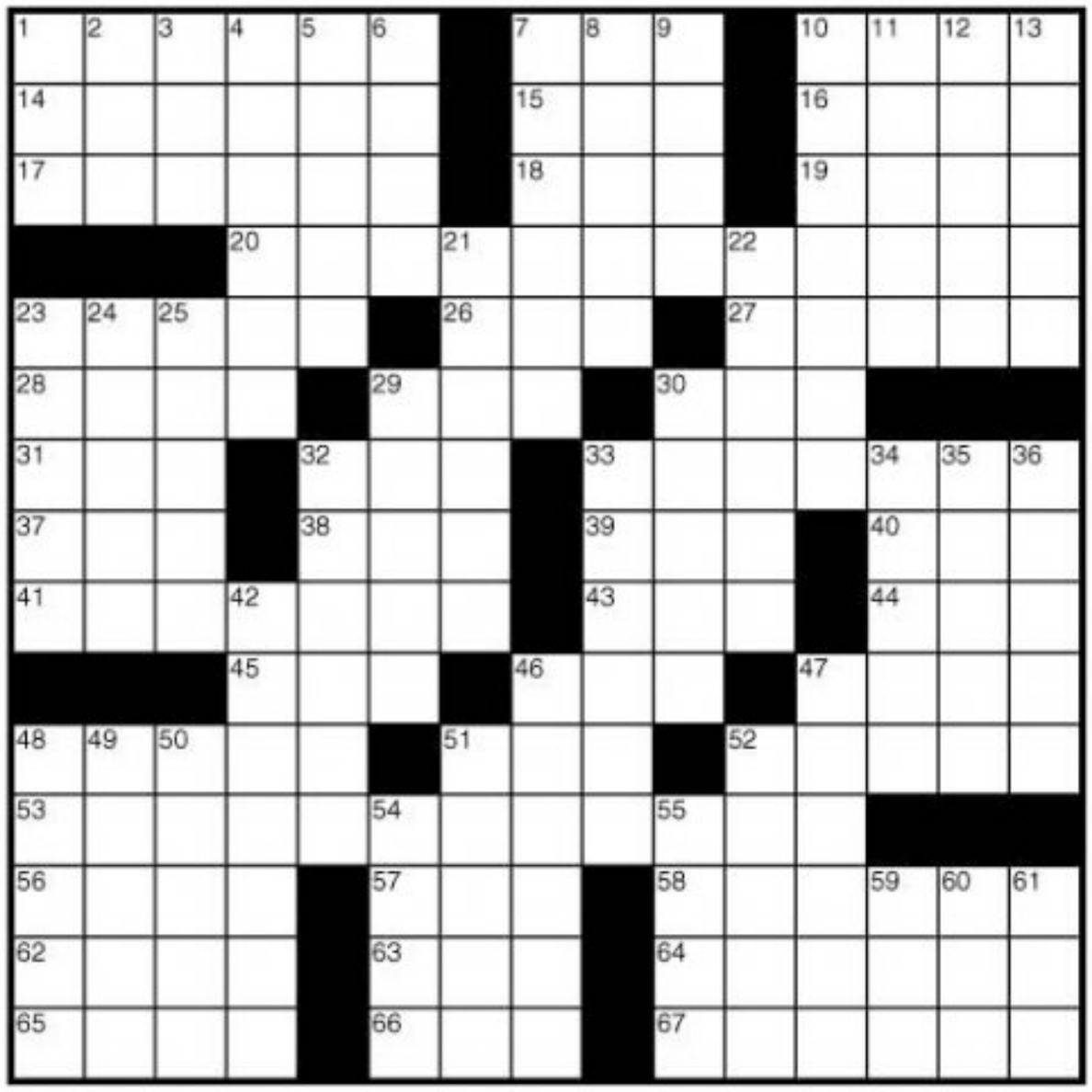

Across
1 Ice cream --
7 It gives a hoot
10 Lawsuit basis
14 Disregard
15 Moo companion
16 Lotion additive
17 Yellowish melon
18 Horror-film street
19 Broad ave.
20 Dragged one's feet
23 Steel fastener
26 Fair-hiring letters
27 Untrusting
28 Omnia vincit --
29 Bounder
30 Do lunch
31 Actor — Kilmer
32 Ground cover
33 Private eye
37 Souffle ingredient
38 Make a fly
39 Victorian, e.g.
40 Rustic hotel
41 Blind alley (2 wds.)
43 Calendar divs.
44 Lawyer's thing
45 RN stations
46 Fleur-de- —
47 Admirer
48 Chisel
51 Pentagon VIP
52 Tureen utensil
53 Very large
56 First name in espionage
57 Incan treasure
58 Shelled, as corn
62 Barely managed
63 Restroom sign
64 Beethoven's Third
65 Not easily found
66 Ben & Jerry's rival
67 Quota

Down
1 Photo
2 Turkish honorific
3 HMO staffers
4 Stevedore
5 Moon track
6 Not bogus
7 Submitted
8 Emerson's middle name
9 Tibetan monk
10 Yellow pads
11 Dragon puppet
12 Mars explorer
13 Cuddly toy
21 Type of gasoline
22 Pack animals
23 Gushed over
24 Mind's-eye view
25 Europe's longest river
29 Invents a word
30 Common Market money
32 Sound setup
33 Sign after Taurus
34 Put on the payroll
35 Tatum or Ryan
36 Happen next
42 Lower in esteem
46 Tart
47 Candidate list
48 Having more spunk
49 Port near Kyoto
50 Say
51 Hurt at Pamplona
52 Gene Tierney movie
54 1899 Gold Rush town
55 One-name entertainer
59 Twice XXVI
60 Environmental prefix
61 Judo ranking

Horoscope

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Lounging in a cozy easy chair could have a strong appeal for you — yet if you fail to be at least a tad productive, you're likely to feel guilty for wasting all that valuable time.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Even though you won't be putting on any pretenses, the persona you present is likely to be more dramatic than usual. Others will be drawn to you for this reason.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** You can't help but succeed in situations where you are motivated to do good things and bring joy to others. All you want to do is help make people happy.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** You're not going to find a better day to promote a cause in which you truly believe. Even those who usually give you a hard time will succumb to your appeal.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** If you're prepared to give in order to get, most of your material affairs should work out to your benefit. Some of your biggest obstacles may be taken out of the picture.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** It isn't likely that you will shy away from any challenges. In fact, you'll welcome situations that are much too trying for others.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** You'll get far more out of being helpful than merely feathering your own nest. Good deeds will be appreciated and rewarded.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** There's no reason why you shouldn't be hopeful regarding the outcome of events, because you're presently in a lucky cycle. Being optimistic and positive helps a lot.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** You're not likely to seek out competition, but you'll not duck any either. Should a strong competitor challenge you, you'll be a tough cookie to contend with.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** If you view things from a positive perspective, your faith will work wonders. Events will turn out the way you envision them, if your belief is strong enough.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Joint ventures hold far more promise for you than independent endeavors at this time. However, this will prove true only if you're teamed up with someone of equal talent who has a similar work ethic to your own.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Moderation is the key to success, so do your best to play everything down the middle. For best results in the endeavor, don't be too aggressive or too passive.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Solution to Thursday's crossword

Letters

The family pet is as valuable as your kid

RE: "ARE PEOPLE MORE UPSET OVER MINDY MCCREADY'S DOG THAN HER CHILDREN?" (METRO, FEB. 19) What's so bad about taking the life of an animal is that the animal is an innocent party. Just like the children of McCready are innocent, so too is the family pet. Humans just don't like when other humans kill animals because animals provide unconditional joy, calm and love without asking for much in return, unlike children that need A LOT in return. Therefore, please try to understand why we humans are even MORE upset that McCready took the life of an innocent dog before her own since it just shows how much more egocentric and callous she was. No, killing a pet is AS BAD as killing a child. They are as much a part of the family as the children are.

GEORGE MCDONALD, VIA E-MAIL

Judge not lest you miss out

RE: "IN DEFENSE OF THE SHORT, THE SKINNY AND THE SMALL" (METRO, FEB. 21) No one likes to be judged, especially by their appearances, but guess what? It's human nature and everyone does it! Men and women judge not only potential partners, but themselves as well. Instead of wasting time dwelling on your shortcomings or complaining "I'm too short, too skinny, too curvy, etc.," get out there and find the person who will appreciate you for you and everything you have to offer! And I promise, there is someone for everyone and every type out there. **KACIE SANFILIPPO, VIA E-MAIL**

US military, for when peace fails

RE: "VIOLENCE SHOULD BE THE LAST RESORT" (METRO, FEB. 21) I would like to begin my letter by commending letter writer Paul Emile Anders for reminding us that nonviolent protest has been very successful — as can be seen in the great work that was achieved by Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King. However, nonviolent protests couldn't have succeeded against tyrants like Hitler, and it also would not have been successful when it came to dealing with modern-day tyrants like Slobodan Milosevic, Saddam Hussein and Osama bin Laden. That's why we should all be grateful to recent presidents and to the military for all that they have done to liberate people.

JOHN FRANCIS FOX, VIA E-MAIL

SUDOKU: EASY

	9					6		
		3			6		1	
8		1		5			7	
9			3			7	2	
5			4		9			6
	2	8			7			5
	8			6		1		2
	3		2			5		
		2					8	

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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Sizing up Eagles draft as combine starts up

All eyes on Indianapolis as NFL coaches test out college's best ● Could Joeckel slip? ● Is Milliner healthy? ● Birds pick at No. 4

ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

▶ Due to Chip Kelly's fast-paced system at Oregon, Jordan played much of his senior season at only 225 pounds.

The NFL draft is still two months away, but the combine is under way in Indianapolis, so let the dissections begin.

The Eagles have needs all over the field — in the secondary (cornerback, safety), along the offensive line (injuries make this a great unknown). And you can never have too many linebackers (especially with an expected transition to 3-4) and they might even look at a quarterback or two.

With team brass huddling up under clear Indiana skies this weekend, let's take a look at some potential fits for the Birds at pick No. 4.

Luke Joeckel, OT, Texas A&M: The most talented offensive lineman — and maybe player — in the draft is unlikely to slip down to No. 4. But Andy Reid does hold the first pick, so stranger things have happened. Keep your fingers crossed. Joeckel, a left tackle, would be the ultimate insurance policy for Jason Peters.

Star Lotulelei, NT, Utah: The experts say to throw out the numbers and just watch him play. Lotulelei was the top defensive lineman in the Pac-12 and seems to be rising up draft boards quickly. He's been compared to the Ravens' Haloti Ngata.

Dee Milliner, CB, Alabama: Milliner is a perfect plug-and-play pick since the Birds may lose either (or both) Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie (free agent) and Nnamdi Asomugha (bust). Milliner, a big physical corner (6-foot-1, 185 pounds) is undergoing shoulder surgery right after the combine, but will be 100 percent by training camp.

Dion Jordan, DE, Oregon: This could be a little high for Jordan, but don't be surprised if this is the pick. He played under new head coach Chip Kelly and assistant head coach Jerry Azzinaro at Oregon and possesses game-changing speed (4.6 seconds in the 40-yard dash) for someone his size (6-foot-7, 240 pounds).

Sharrif Floyd, DT, Florida: Born in Philly, this would be a nice homecoming for a kid who never stayed in one home very long, much like Michael Oher. Since Floyd is more an edge rusher than an interior pass-rush threat, he could thrive in a 3-4. He was the top DT prospect coming out of prep school.

Mike Greger
mgreger@metro.us

▶ Milliner could be the first cornerback taken in the Top-4 picks since Charles Woodson.

3

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Phillies rivals reading into Hamels' new deal

The silver lining for the Phillies during a forgettable 2012 season came in late July when Cole Hamels signed a long-term deal to stay with the club.

"So many of us were watching what he would do," Red Sox pitcher Ryan Dempster said. "He left a lot of money [on the table]. He could have commanded something ridiculous on the open market, but he opted to stay with the Phillies."

Hamels had an easy out. He could have said that he saw an aging core with little hope for the future. But he obviously sees something very different.

Add a healthy Hamels to Cliff Lee, a strong bullpen, and a healthy Ryan Howard, and the Phils should be in much better shape than last season.

And then there are the big question marks. Can Chase Utley play 140 games? Can Roy Halladay approximate his days as the best pitcher in baseball after a disappointing, injury-riddled season?

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Hamels is the highest-paid member of the Phillies, but some feel he left a lot more money on the table.

"I wouldn't count the Phillies out," Dempster said. "I never liked facing that lineup. If Utley is healthy and Ryan Howard is close to 100 percent, all I can say is don't count out a champion. These guys won it all and almost won another World Series. They've been there. They can handle the heat.

"They may have some questions, but they are not an easy team to deal with whether you're a hitter or a pitcher. If teams underestimate the Phillies this season, they might pay for it. I think that's a team that's going to be tough this year. There is a reason that Hamels came back. He saw that they still have a strong core. That division race [in the NL East] is going to be interesting."

Ed Condran
sports@metro.us

Phillies chatter

Schmidt says 2013 Phillies are 'hungry' team

On Wednesday, Mike Schmidt showed up at Phillies camp without his trademark mustache. If that isn't the first sign that change is in the air, then what else is?

Schmidt, who is in Florida as a special hitting instructor, watched the Phils take batting practice Thursday and gave his former team an ego boost.

"I think the team feels they have something to prove," Schmidt said. "And they dang sure have the studs to do it. They're still the same team pretty much. A little bit older and a little bit more experienced, but we're hungry. And there's nothing like being hungry."

The Hall of Famer spoke for almost half an hour, addressing topics as far-ranging as the 2013 Phillies to the steroid era.

▶ Schmidt, before he shaved the mustache

In previous interviews, Schmidt has always maintained that if he had been offered steroids, he probably would have taken them.

"I sort of ride the fence on that whole steroid-era issue," Schmidt said. "I don't have a definite opinion like some of my fellow Hall of Famers. Some of the guys were very, very adamant about a person being associated with steroids: 'They'll never be in the Hall of Fame. If they are, I'll never come back.' I've heard that from some of my fellow members and I think that's absolutely ridiculous." METRO

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Read out six weeks

On the same day the Flyers learned that winger Scottie Hartnell may be closer to a return, the team also found out Matt Read would be lost for six weeks.

Read, who absorbed a brutal hit Wednesday night from Chris Kunitz, is out with torn rib-cage muscles. Playing on the top line, he leads all Flyers goal-scorers with seven this season. Read was also a key contributor on the power-play and penalty-kill units.

Meanwhile, Flyers GM Paul Holmgren announced that Hartnell's fractured left foot is improving. He could return to the ice in five to seven days, instead of the seven to 10 originally anticipated.

Andrej Meszaros is still seven to 10 days away from a return, but he was cleared for limited practice.

The Flyers played Florida on Thursday (too late for Metro) and host Winnipeg Saturday at 1 p.m. before welcoming Toronto on Monday. METRO

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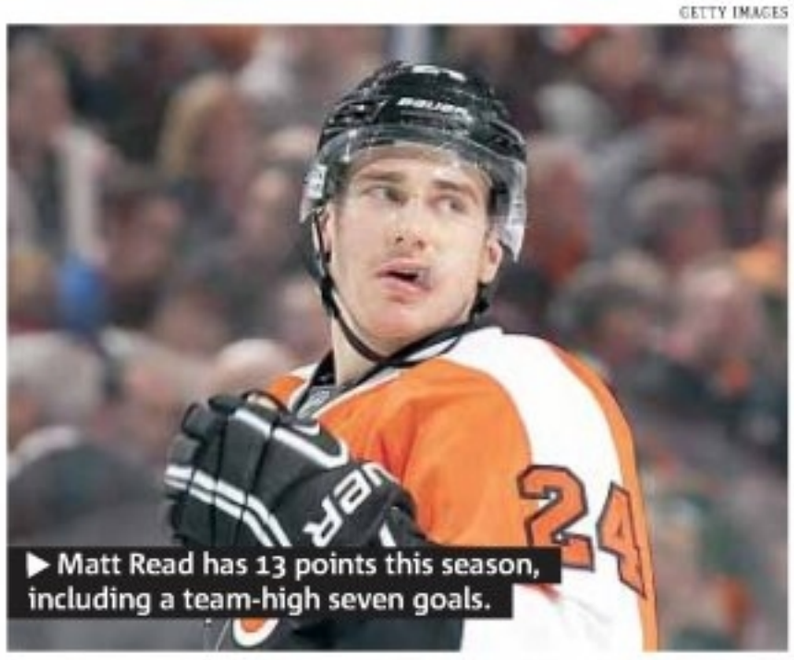

▶ Matt Read has 13 points this season, including a team-high seven goals.

Local roundup

Sixers acquire Jenkins for pick

NBA. The Sixers made a minor deal before the NBA's trading deadline by acquiring Charles Jenkins and cash considerations from the Warriors on Thursday in exchange for a protected second-round draft pick.

Jenkins, selected with the 44th overall pick in the 2011 draft, played 98 games (28 starts) for Golden State and averaged 3.9 points and 2.0 assists in 12.1 minutes per game. The second-year guard is Hofstra's all-time leading scorer with 2,513 career points. METRO

Ex-Eagle added to Soul staff

AFL. The Philadelphia Soul added Hollis Thomas to their coaching staff Thursday. The former Eagle will serve as an assistant line coach. He joins Chris McKinney, Steve Criswell, Don Malloy and head coach Clint Dolezel on the coaching staff.

"I am excited about this year's staff," said Dolezel in a statement. "Each one of our coaches has a strong football background and will bring a wealth of knowledge that will get us closer to winning a championship."

Thomas, a defensive tackle, played 14 NFL seasons, including 10 in Philadelphia. METRO

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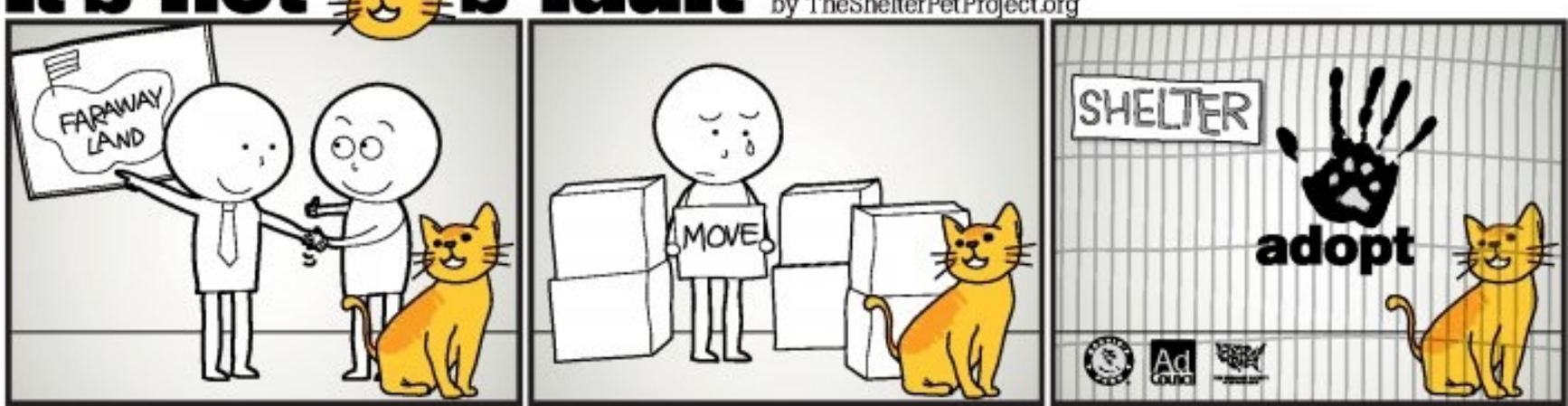

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